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THE

WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE

OFFICIAL RECORDS

OF THE

UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

The Hon. **DANIEL S. LAMONT**, Secretary of War,

BY

MAJ. GEORGE B. DAVIS, U. S. A.,
MR. LESLIE J. PERRY,
MR. JOSEPH W. KIRKLEY,
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PART II—CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

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PART II.—VOL. XLVII.

CORRESPONDENCE, ORDERS, AND RETURNS RELATING TO OPERATIONS IN NORTH CAROLINA (FROM FEBRUARY 1), SOUTH CAROLINA, SOUTHERN GEORGIA, AND EAST FLORIDA, FROM JANUARY 1, 1865, TO MARCH 23, 1865.*

UNION CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

CITY POINT, VA., *January 1, 1865—3.30 p. m.*
(Received 5 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

I sent instructions to Sherman which advised that Foster should organize all the colored troops he could for his department. Negroes here would return white troops to their regiments, but you may direct General Meigs to send orders to Captain Strang to return without them. Please also instruct Sherman and Foster to retain all negroes South until the return of warm weather.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

(Copy by Halleck to Meigs.)

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, January 1, 1865. (Received 12th.)

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Savannah, Ga.:

MY DEAR GENERAL: Your letter of December 24 is received,† and I have just shown it to the Secretary of War, who expressed great pleasure and satisfaction in reading it. Your anticipations in regard to the Wilmington expedition have proved so correct that your reputation as a prophet may soon equal that as a general. Thank God, I had nothing to do with it, except to express the opinion that Butler's torpedo ship would have about as much effect on the forts as if he should ——— at them. I said about the same thing to the Secretary of War and General Grant before they consented to it. You ask me to criticise your plan of future operations. I fully agree with you that a central line on Branchville and Columbia offers more advantages than one on either Augusta or Charleston. The destruction of railroads and sup-

* For Correspondence, etc., from March 24, 1865, to June 30, 1865, see Part III. The Correspondence, etc., relating to operations in the State of North Carolina from January 1 to 31, 1865, is embraced in Vol. XLVI, Part II.

† See Vol. XLIV, p. 798.

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plies in South Carolina will do the enemy more harm than the capture of either or both of those cities. They can be left for a backhanded blow. I have no doubt that you can supply your army in the country from Savannah to Raleigh; but if you should have much fighting you may want ammunition. If so, you must make for the coast and notify us through Savannah or New Berne to meet you. We, however, shall probably first hear of your movements through the rebel newspapers, as before.

Wilmington, in my opinion, would be a much greater prize than Charleston. If you can lay waste the interior of South Carolina and destroy the railroads Charleston must be abandoned by all except a small garrison. I hope you may be able to start early and move rapidly, for quick and rapid blows will now be most effective.

Thomas has done well against Hood, but he is too slow for an effective pursuit. Moreover, he will not live on the enemy. He himself is entirely opposed to a winter campaign, and is already speaking of recruiting his army for spring operations. I have, therefore, urged General Grant to send Schofield and A. J. Smith to re-enforce Canby at Mobile and move up the Alabama River to Selma and Montgomery, destroying all the enemy's manufactories and supplies on that line. Thomas, with the remainder of his forces, can easily defend Kentucky and Tennessee against any new raid that Jeff. Davis may plan in that direction.

It is useless talking about putting any of our armies into winter quarters. It is not necessary, and the financial condition of the country will not permit it. Those troops not required for defense must move into the enemy's country and live on it. There is no alternative; it must be done.

Wishing you a happy New Year and successful campaign, I am,

Yours, truly,

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 1, 1865.

Brig. Gen. L. C. EASTON,
Quartermaster, Savannah, Ga.:

GENERAL: The general-in-chief directs that hereafter transportation to Hilton Head and Beaufort be furnished without further orders to all colored men who desire to enlist in the regiments organizing at those points; care being taken, however, that none are so transported except at their own request.

I have the honor to be, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY HITCHCOCK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Savannah, Ga., January 1, 1865.

Brig. Gen. L. C. EASTON,
Chief Quartermaster, Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I regret exceedingly to trouble you, but I wish you to know the exact state of things. It is reported to me by Major-General Osterhaus that his artillery horses are dying at the picket rope of

actual starvation, and other officers report that public and private horses of the command are without forage. Must this be allowed when forage is within six miles of us? Is there no possible expedient we can resort to in order to get a supply? Are there no inlets where we can land forage? Are there no flats nor small boats in which we can bring grain ashore? Be assured, general, that my officers and men, and myself, are at your service willing to work night and day. I am held responsible by my command for these things; my only alternative is to apply to you. I do not wish to oppose you, but to assist you in every way in my power.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 1, 1865.

Brig. Gen. W. T. WARD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to say that the steamer Planter will be assigned for the transportation of your division to-morrow. He wishes the balance of your command pushed over in the boats to-morrow as rapidly as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January 2, 1865.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C..

SIR: I have just received from Lieutenant-General Grant a copy of that part of your telegram* to him of 26th December, relating to cotton, a copy of which has been immediately furnished to General Easton, my chief quartermaster, who will be strictly governed by it. I had already been approached by all the consuls and half the people of Savannah on this cotton question, and my invariable answer has been that all the cotton in Savannah was prize of war and belonged to the United States, and nobody should recover a bale of it with my consent, and that as cotton had been one of the chief causes of this war it should help to pay its expenses; that all cotton became tainted with treason from the hour the first act of hostility was committed against the United States, some time in December, 1860, and that no bill of sale subsequent to that date could convey title. My orders were that an officer of the Quartermaster's Department, U. S. Army, might furnish the holder, agent, or attorney a mere certificate of the fact of seizure, with description of the bales, marks, &c., the cotton then to be turned over to the agent of the Treasury Department to be shipped to New York for sale. But since the receipt of your dispatch I have ordered General Easton to make the shipment himself to the quartermaster at New York, where you can dispose of it at pleasure. I do not think the Treasury Department ought to bother itself with the prizes or captures of war.

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*See Vol. XLIV, p. 809.

Mr. Barclay, former consul at New York, representing Mr. Molineux, formerly consul here but absent since a long time, called on me in person with reference to cotton claimed by English subjects. He seemed amazed when I told him I should pay no respect to consular certificates, and that in no event would I treat an English subject with more favor than one of our own deluded citizens, and that for my part I was unwilling to fight for cotton for the benefit of Englishmen openly engaged in smuggling arms and instruments of war to kill us; that on the contrary it would afford me great satisfaction to conduct my army to Nassau and wipe out that nest of pirates. I explained to him, however, that I was not a diplomatic agent of the General Government of the United States, but that my opinion, so frankly expressed, was that of a soldier, which it would be well for him to heed. It appeared also that he owned a plantation on the line of investment of Savannah, which of course is destroyed, and for which he expected me to give him some certificate entitling him to indemnification, which I declined emphatically. I have adopted in Savannah rules concerning property, severe but just, founded upon the laws of nations and the practice of civilized governments; and am clearly of opinion that we should claim all the belligerent rights over conquered countries, that the people may realize the truth that war is no child's play. I embrace in this a copy of a letter dated December 31, 1864, in answer to one from Solomon Cohen, a rich lawyer, to General Blair, his personal friend, as follows.*

This letter was in answer to specific inquiries. It is clear and specific, and covers all the points, and should I leave before my orders are executed I will endeavor to impress upon my successor, General Foster, their wisdom and propriety. I hope the course I have taken in these matters will meet your approbation, and that the President will not refund to parties claiming cotton or other property without the strongest evidences of loyalty and friendship on the part of the claimant, or unless some other positive end is to be gained.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 2, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point:

GENERAL: I have received, by the hands of General Barnard, your note of 26th and letter of 27th December.† I herewith inclose to you a copy of a projet which I have this morning, in strict confidence, discussed with my immediate commanders. I shall need, however, larger supplies of stores, especially grain. I will inclose to you, with this, letters from General Easton, quartermaster, and Colonel Beckwith, commissary of subsistence, setting forth what will be required, and trust you will forward them with your sanction, so that the necessary steps may be taken at once to enable me to carry out this plan on time. I wrote you very fully on the 24th,‡ and have nothing to add to that. Everything here is quiet, and if I can get the necessary supplies in my wagons I shall be ready to start at the time indicated in my projet,

* See Vol. XLIV, p. 846.
† See Vol. XLIV, pp 809, 820.
‡ See Vol. XLIV, p. 797.

but until those supplies are in hand I can do nothing; after they are I shall be ready to move with great rapidity. I have heard of the affair at Cape Fear; it has turned out as you will remember I expected. I have furnished General Easton a copy of the dispatch from the Secretary of War. He will retain possession of all cotton here and ship it, as fast as vessels can be had, to New York. I shall immediately send the Seventeenth Corps over to Port Royal by boats to be furnished by Admiral Dahlgren and General Foster, without interfering with General Easton's vessels, to make a lodgment on the railroad at Pocotaligo. General Barnard will remain with me a few days, and I shall send this by a staff officer, who can return on one of the vessels of the supply fleet. I suppose that now that General Butler has got through you can spare them to us.

My report of recent operations is nearly ready and will be sent on in a day or two, as soon as some further subordinate reports come in.

I am, with great respect, very truly, your friend,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

Projet for January.—Extremely confidential.

Right Wing move men and artillery by transports to head of Broad River and Beaufort; get Port Royal Ferry and mass the wing at or in the neighborhood of Pocotaligo.

Left Wing and cavalry work slowly across the causeway toward Hardeeville to open a road by which wagons can reach their corps about Broad River; also by a rapid movement of the Left secure Sister's Ferry and out as far as the Augusta road—Robertsville.

In the meantime all guns, shot, shells, cotton, &c., to be got to a safe place, easy to guard, and provisions and wagons got ready for another swath, aiming to have our army in hand about the head of Broad River, say Pocotaligo, Robertsville, and Coosawhatchie by the 15th of January.

Second. Move with loaded wagons by the roads leading in the direction of Columbia, which afford the best chance of forage and provisions. Howard to be at Pocotaligo 15th of January, and Slocum to be at Robertsville and Kilpatrick at or near Coosawhatchie about same date.

General Foster's troops to occupy Savannah, and gun-boats to protect the rivers as soon as Howard gets Pocotaligo.

SAVANNAH, *January 2, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

DEAR GENERAL: I found the California, which had brought Major Gray, at Fort Monroe, and sailed in her a few hours after my arrival (Tuesday evening, December 27). I had a tedious voyage, with a gale of wind dead ahead the whole way. Reached Hilton Head at 9 p. m. yesterday, and arrived here last evening at 4 p. m. General Sherman sends dispatches to day, and a liberal execution of your orders would require, or at least justify, me to return by the same steamer; but General Sherman prefers that I should stay long enough to see things for myself and for us to have some talk, and I believe it would meet

the spirit of your orders to do so. I shall therefore remain for the Arago, which leaves Hilton Head next Monday, the 9th. I have already had an opportunity to meet Generals Slocum, Howard, and numerous other officers of rank, and am very much pleased with the spirit and feeling which seems to pervade with all. Every day the magnitude of results of Sherman's great march, combined with Hood's discomfiture, impresses itself more and more upon me. I think we shall see daylight this coming spring.

At the time I left City Point I was about renewing my examinations of the Fort Clifton lines in view of an enterprise upon them. I feel, however, as if matters were approaching a certain result with such strides that it is inexpedient to run risks, and perhaps lose men on uncertainties. Still, circumstances might occur which would render such an enterprise expedient. If Major Michie gets his pile bridge done in a week or ten days we shall have some fifty more available boats for such an operation. I presume I shall reach City Point on the 12th.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. BARNARD,
Brevet Major-General, &c.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Savannah, Ga., January 2, 1865.

Maj. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I wrote you on the 30th ultimo* in regard to sending to this place sixty days' grain for 35,000 animals; also requesting you to send me six very light-draught steamers and twenty Schuylkill barges. I am now instructed by General Sherman to say that he contemplates a very important move, and desires the sixty days' grain and subsistence for 70,000 men for sixty days sent forward as rapidly as possible, one-half the grain and one-half the subsistence (thirty days') to be sent into Wassaw Sound in steamers drawing not over twelve feet of water, and the other half to Hilton Head in such vessels as can be procured, but the lighter they are the better. There is but thirteen feet water from Wassaw Sound to this place, at the highest tide. It is important in selecting the vessels that as many as possible be fixed upon that have capacity and conveniences for carrying animals, and I request that they may be selected with that view. Time is a very important consideration, and I suggest that such sail vessels as it may be necessary to use in this work be towed by the steamers in order to save as much time as possible. Send all grain and no hay. Hurry forward all the clothing and other stores I have asked for as soon as possible. The sixty days' grain will be required at the commencement of the move. In addition to this we must have grain to last us until that time, say fifteen days. The light steamers and barges asked for in my letter of the 30th ultimo I still require. The animals of this army are in great jeopardy at present for the want of grain, as but little has as yet arrived, and the animals have been without for several days. Grain should be pushed forward with the utmost dispatch.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. C. EASTON,
Brevet Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

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*See Vol. XLIV, p. 837.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 1.

HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga.,
January 2, 1865.

* * * * * * *

V. Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard, commanding Army of the Tennessee, will move the Seventeenth Corps to Port Royal Island. All details and detachments from this corps will join their command at once.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 2.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Savannah, Ga., January 2, 1865.

* * * * * * *

X. Captain Reese, chief engineer, will immediately relieve the pioneers and details of the Seventeenth Army Corps from duty on the fortifications and instruct them to report to their commands. The Fifteenth Army Corps will furnish all details required in their place.

* * * * * * *

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 2, 1865.

Brigadier-General HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: By direction of the general commanding I have the honor to inform you that Major-General Foster, with the co-operation of the Navy, has been instructed to dismantle the forts on the coast below this city now held by garrisons from this command, and to request that you will reduce your force so occupied to the smallest number that can safely be left in charge of the ammunition and material now in the works. The residue of the garrisons will be withdrawn as soon as the ammunition has been removed.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Corse.)

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Savannah, Ga., January 2, 1865.

Maj. Gen. FRANK P. BLAIR, Jr.,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to direct you to prepare your command and have it in readiness to move by water from Fort Thunderbolt, the movement to commence to-mor-

row. The infantry will be moved first by boats furnished by the Navy, with such horses as belong to the field and staff. The mounted infantry, artillery, and transportation will follow by vessels furnished by the quartermaster's department, or remain to go by land. Three days' rations in haversacks will be taken, if so much can be obtained. The pioneer corps and details from your command at work on the fortifications will be relieved. The major-general commanding desires that you send one of your pioneer corps or a suitable detail to Thunderbolt to at once prepare a wharf or place of embarkation. About 4,000 men can be transported a day. You can commence with the division nearest to Thunderbolt and continue on until the whole of your infantry is taken.

Respectfully,

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
DEPARTMENT OF THE TENNESSEE,
Savannah, Ga., January 2, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. D. LEGGETT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say to you in forwarding the inclosed letter from department headquarters,* that your command will embark next after the First Division, and that you will embark from Thunderbolt. You will move on the 4th instant, and in making your preparations will give as little publicity to it as possible.

Very respectfully,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January 2, 1865.

General J. W. GEARY,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The general-in-chief directs that hereafter no passes for going outside our lines be given. If any persons desire to go out, and you should deem it proper to let them, pass them to the pickets by a guard. None can go out and return. If any go they must remain out.

I am, general, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Near Savannah, Ga., January 2, 1865.

Captain DAYTON,
Aide-de Camp to the General-in-Chief:

CAPTAIN: I have found corn just the other side of Taylor's Creek in great abundance. Had a slight skirmish with some of Wheeler's cavalry this morning. A large number of my wagons have just returned loaded down with forage and sweet potatoes. Shall send out heavy train in the morning. Can make the trip in two days. First

* See Taggart to Blair, next, *ante*.

Alabama Cavalry and Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry can be fully supplied if they report to me to-morrow with their wagon trains. They can accompany my people. They should bring ammunition, as we expect to have a little fight. If you will send a few of your headquarters wagons I will have them loaded with forage, honey, sweet potatoes, &c. My picket-line alone will be left between the Ogeechee and the Savannah. It will answer every purpose, however. I can now bring up my convalescent stock of horses and mules in less than two weeks.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 24. } HDQRS. COAST DIV., DEPT. OF THE SOUTH, *Deveaux's Neck, S. C., January 2, 1865.*

I. The Twenty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops will be relieved from duty with this division and proceed to Beaufort, S. C., as soon as transportation can be procured.

* * * * * * *

By order of Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. } HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI, *Nashville, Tenn., January 3, 1865.*

I. Capt. William R. Tuttle, One hundred and fifth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, is announced as assistant provost-marshal-general, Military Division of the Mississippi, vice Stockdale, relieved, and will be respected accordingly.

II. Capt. E. L. Anderson, Fifty-second Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, is hereby assigned to duty as acting assistant adjutant-general at these headquarters. He will be respected accordingly.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

R. M. SAWYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 3. } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE, *Savannah, Ga., January 3, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

III. In accordance with paragraph 5, Special Field Orders, No. 1, headquarters Military Division of the Mississippi, January 2, 1865, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair, commanding Seventeenth Army Corps, will move his command by such vessels as may be provided for that purpose to the point already indicated to him. All details and detachments from his corps will join their commands at once. The Fifteenth Corps, Major-General Osterhaus commanding, will furnish all details for guard, fatigue, &c., required from this army while in the city.

* * * * * * *

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 3. } HDQRS. FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Savannah, Ga., January 3, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

III. Capt. Charles D. Miller, Seventy-sixth Ohio Veteran Infantry, is hereby relieved from duty as acting assistant inspector-general, to date from December 27, 1864.

* * * * * * *

By order of Maj. Gen. P. Joseph Osterhaus:

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Savannah, Ga., January 3, 1865.

Major-General BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires me to say that by his order to move by organizations he does not wish to be understood as desiring you to be particular about brigades and divisions, but simply regiments, which will be pushed forward as rapidly as transportation can be furnished.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 13. } HDQRS. LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA, *Savannah, Ga., January 3, 1865.*

I. Capt. John Rziha, Nineteenth U. S. Infantry, is, at his own request, relieved from duty with the Fourteenth Army Corps as acting topographical engineer, and will join his regiment without delay.

By command of Maj. Gen. H. W. Slocum:

H. C. RODGERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTIETH CORPS,
Cheves' House, Four Miles from Savannah, January 3, 1865.

Lieutenant-Colonel PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have in person this morning reconnoitered several miles up the road toward Hardeeville. Trees have been felled in the road from the rice-fields to this place and for many miles beyond. I have removed them to this place and for one mile and a half beyond; the others I will not cut out until I have a more minute and extensive examination made farther up the road. The rebels have driven off everything that they could and killed and left dead on the road everything they could not drive away. Few rebels seen. Their camp-fires plainly seen (from a large post) last night, but are not to be seen this morning. The fort is built on the Hardee farm, about one mile from here. It covers about three acres, large enough to encamp 2,000 men;

has embrasures for about fifteen or twenty guns. It is on the highest ground near the road. I think it the best place to encamp my division. I have now three parties out, examining the country, hunting rebels, &c. I think none will be found.

Respectfully, &c.,

W. T. WARD,
Brigadier-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 3, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding Left Wing:

General Ward has been ordered to encamp his division on the high ground spoken of, and to send reconnoitering parties toward Hardeeville, which is understood to be occupied by but a small force of cavalry.

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING,
Savannah, Ga., January 4, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded for information of the general-in-chief.

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 3, 1865.

Brig. Gen. W. T. WARD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: Your note of this afternoon is just received. In reply the general commanding directs me to say that he does not wish for the present for you to advance your troops beyond the fortifications where you are now encamped. He wishes you to hold that and all of the roads so as to completely cover the pontoon bridge. You can, however, send out small reconnoitering parties to gather information. The general wishes for the present to avoid any serious fighting on that side of the river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

KILPATRICK'S HEADQUARTERS,
January 3, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN:

My people are getting plenty of forage on the other side of Taylor's Creek, but are fighting for it. Colonel Atkins, with 1,500 men and two pieces of artillery, crossed this morning and will clean the rebels out. When may I expect to get some horses from the infantry? I can feed them now and am very anxious to get ready for the field.

Answer.

J. KILPATRICK,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Thunderbolt, January 3, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD:

GENERAL: Major-General Foster desires me to inform you that the following-named steamers are employed in transporting the Seventeenth Corps from this point to Beaufort, S. C.: General Sherman, 500 men; Louisburg, 1,000 men; Fannie, 500 men; Crescent, 1,200 men; Spaulding, 1,000 men; Mary A. Boardman, 500 men; Canonicus, 600 men; Delaware, 800 men; Cosmopolitan, teams and wagons; Golden Gate, teams and wagons; George Leary, teams and wagons; Wyoming, teams and wagons; Sylph, teams and wagons. These steamers will return as soon as they have landed their troops.

I am, general, yours, very respectfully,

EDWARD N. STRONG,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Savannah, Ga., January 3, 1865.

Respectfully referred to Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair, commanding Seventeenth Army Corps, for his information.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES, DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Beaufort, S. C., January 4, 1865.

[Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR, Jr.:]

GENERAL: I find that there is no transportation here and you must arrange to have a portion of yours brought. A hundred wagons at least must be sent forward while the troops are moving. There is forage, and I think the more animals you can get over the better. General Foster says the wharf is not built, and in consequence one boat with 1,200 men on board is stuck.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

7 A. M.

P. S.—Two boat loads have disembarked.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 4. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 4, 1865.

* * * * * * *

III. This command will be prepared to move at once. The First Brigade, Brig. Gen. M. F. Force commanding, will have the advance, followed by the Second Brigade, Col. G. F. Wiles commanding. The artillery, Lieutenant Bailey commanding, will follow in rear of the infantry.

Trains in same order as the troops, followed by ordnance and headquarters trains. Ambulances will follow in rear of each brigade.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. D. Leggett:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Cheves' House, S. C., January 4, 1865.

Lieutenant-Colonel PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Twentieth Army Corps:

COLONEL: This evening I sent Major Clay with 175 men to Jonesville. He found no rebel encampment there. A brigade of cavalry was there last night and left a few stragglers there to-day; none to-night. On his way he took two prisoners, one belonging to Hampton's cavalry, one to the infantry; first sent home to get fresh horses. The infantryman knows nothing, the cavalryman very little, but says that he thinks the cavalry have a camp between Jonesville and Beech Hills, and a battery, but does not know that such is the case. The cavalry were a part of Wheeler's command, under the command of Anderson. Major Clay also brought in two contrabands from Jonesville, who report that all the cavalry pickets in the river bottom, after the skirmish with my men last evening, were drawn in and retreated full speed through Jonesville last night, up the roads toward Hardeeville, saying that the "Yankees were coming;" since which time they have seen no rebel soldiers near Jonesville, and that they think all of them have gone back to Hardeeville. Before they left they shot down all the hogs and cattle and took all that the "poor negroes" had to eat, stating that the Yankees would get it if they (the rebels) did not kill, destroy, and take it. I informed Colonel Robinson when here to-day that Beech Hills would do to encamp upon. I learn to-night that it is in the river bottom and not fit for encampment, but that Jonesville is a fine place for several regiments, but not for a division. I also sent a party to examine the Red Bluff Fort. They found the roads leading to it high, dry, and good. The fort good but small; the water ten feet deep at low tide; several roads leading from it up and down the river; fine ground for encampments. The fort is three miles from my troops. Captain Crawford and Lieutenant Tuttle, of my staff, think that my troops could be supplied by landing stores at that point.

Your humble servant,

W. T. WARD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 4, 1865.

Brig. Gen. R. SAXTON,
Commanding District of Beaufort:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that the shell road from Beaufort to Port Royal Ferry be put in good order immediately, using every precaution not to excite the curiosity of the enemy or the citizens in your command.

Respectfully,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 4, 1865.

SOLOMON COHEN, Esq., *Savannah, Ga.:*

SIR: I am directed by Major-General Sherman to reply to the inquiries contained in your note to him of 3d instant, as follows: The rules

laid down by him in his note* to Major-General Blair are simply a statement of what General Sherman's own policy will be while he remains in command here. He will not undertake to declare or prescribe a policy for his successors. General Sherman is now waiting for the mayor of Savannah to furnish him a list of those who desire to go beyond our lines. Upon the receipt of this he will make arrangements for sending out all such by flag of truce, and of this twenty-four hours' notice will be given. All baggage, &c., taken from the city will, of course, be examined; by whom and in what manner will be regulated by Brig. Gen. J. W. Geary, commanding the post.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY HITCHCOCK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, January 5, 1865—2.50 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Fortress Monroe:

I think it would be useful if you would write to Sherman, urging him to give facilities to the organization of colored troops. He does not seem to appreciate the importance of this measure and appears indifferent if not hostile.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

FORTRESS MONROE, VA., *January 5, 1865—8 a. m.*
(Received 9 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

Please have everything called for by Sherman forwarded without delay. He cannot move until the forage and subsistence called for is received. A special messenger from Sherman has just left here with his requisitions.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Savannah, Ga., January 5, 1865.

General H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: Connected with my report of the operations of this branch of my army, I beg leave to submit the names of certain officers that in my judgment merit promotion or the favor of the Government, in addition to those heretofore submitted through regular official channels. Col. A. Beckwith, commissary of subsistence, was assigned to me by the chief of his department in April last. He at once entered on his duties with an energy and intelligence that could not be surpassed. I have never seen a more industrious officer, and the result has been that he has fed an army of 100,000 men, operating from Nashville to Savannah, a task that one year ago was regarded an impossibility. His coadjutor in this work, General Easton, of the quartermaster's department, has properly been brevetted a brigadier-general,

*See Vol. XLIV, p. 846.

and I request that a similar reward be conferred on Colonel Beckwith. Capt. L. M. Dayton, aide-de-camp on my personal staff, has held the rank of captain and served near my person since the battle of Shiloh without an increase of rank. Since our leaving Nashville in April last he has acted as an assistant adjutant-general, and I recommend he be appointed assistant adjutant-general, with the rank of major, as reward for his constant services.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 5.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Savannah, Ga., January 5, 1865.

* * * * * * *

VII. Maj. C. Landgraeber, Second Missouri Light Artillery, acting chief of artillery, Seventeenth Army Corps, is relieved from such duty and will forthwith report to the commanding officer of his regiment at Saint Louis, Mo. United States Government transports and quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

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By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 2.

HDQRS. 4TH DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 5, 1865.

The troops of this command will move to-morrow morning (January 6) to Thunderbolt, to embark on transports as follows:

I. The First Brigade, Col. B. F. Potts commanding, will be prepared to embark by daylight, or as soon as boats are in readiness.

II. The Third Brigade, Brig. Gen. W. W. Belknap commanding, will move at 8 a. m.

III. The First Minnesota Battery, Captain Clayton, will follow the Third Brigade.

IV. The division supply train will follow the battery.

By order of Brig. Gen. Giles A. Smith:

CHAS. H. BRUSH,
First Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 5, 1865.

Rear-Admiral JOHN A. DAHLGREN, U. S. Navy,
Commanding South Atlantic Blockading Squadron:

ADMIRAL: I desire through you to express my thanks to Acting Master Ogilvie, of the U. S. steamer John Griffith, for his promptness in coming to my assistance while aground in Wassaw Sound on the steamer W. W. Coit, and for his services in piloting the steamer into the Wilmington River.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, *January 6, 1865—3 p. m.*

General GRANT:

I arrived here an hour ago en route for Savannah, by way of Hilton Head, and shall remain until to-morrow. Have you any word you wish to send, or any military news? Quartermaster-General, Townsend, and Barnes are with me.

E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

FORT MONROE, *January 6, 1865—5 p. m.*

General GRANT:

Mrs. Foster wants the general to be sent to Baltimore for an operation on his leg. I am in favor of gratifying her. Is there any good man that can be assigned to that command? If there is I will relieve him while there and make the appointment.

E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., *January 6, 1865—5.30 p. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Fort Monroe, Va.:

I am just in receipt of a letter from Sherman, asking me to re-enforce Foster so that he will not be compelled to leave a division of his army there. Please say to Sherman that I will send the division now embarking at Baltimore. They probably will reach him two days after you do. I wrote to Sherman some time ago to direct Foster to organize negro troops to do garrison duty. Please say to Sherman that if Foster will go to work and organize colored troops they can garrison the forts and islands, leaving all of his white troops for Savannah and the camp at Pocotaligo, enabling the division which I now send to return in the spring, if necessary.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *January 6, 1865—8.30 p. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Fort Monroe:

General Logan or Ord, either, will be good men to relieve Foster.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January 6, 1865.

His Excellency President LINCOLN,
Washington:

DEAR SIR: I am gratified at the receipt of your letter of December 26,* at the hands of General Logan, especially to observe that you appreciate the division I made of my army, and that each part was duly proportioned to its work. The motto, "Nothing venture, nothing

* See Vol. XLIV, p. 809.

win," which you refer to, is most appropriate, and should I venture too much and happen to lose I shall bespeak your charitable inference. I am ready for the "great next" as soon as I can complete certain preliminaries and learn of General Grant his and your preferences of intermediate "objectives."

With great respect, your servant,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *January 6, 1865—11.30 a. m.*

Major-General MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General, Washington, D. C.:

I wish you would push grain and such commissary stores as may be turned over to your department for transportation to Sherman with the least possible delay. His movements depend on the receipt of these articles. After about the 15th instant it is desirable that a large quantity of grain and commissary stores for Sherman's army be shipped on schooners, with a few propellers that could tow them in case of necessity. They should report to Admiral Porter, who will watch Sherman's movements and send supplies whenever needed.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

FORT MONROE, VA., *January 6, 1865—2.30 p. m.*
(Received 6.10 p. m.)

Bvt. Brig. Gen. D. C. MCCALLUM,
Superintendent of Military Railroads:

The Secretary of War directs that you proceed without delay to report in person to General Sherman at Savannah, or wherever he may be found.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

LOUISVILLE, *January 6, 1865.*
(Received 11 a. m. 7th.)

General D. C. MCCALLUM:

I am here on my way to Baltimore. The division has arrived, and will go forward to-night.

W. W. WRIGHT,
Chief Engineer.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January 6, 1865.

THE OFFICER COMDG. CONFEDERATE FORCES IN SOUTH CAROLINA:

GENERAL: I send you herewith, by the hand of Capt. J. C. Audenried, of my staff, a list of persons (about 200) who desire to leave our lines. I will send them by steamer under flag of truce to the Savan-

nah River railroad bridge, or the Coosawhatchie Landing, at the head of Broad River, as soon as I learn which point will be most acceptable to you.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 3. HDQRS. FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Savannah, Ga., January 6, 1865.*

During the approaching campaign the following instructions will be observed:

1. Whenever the whole corps moves upon the same road the trees along the line of march will be blazed with a cross +.

2. If the respective divisions move on separate roads the trees will be blazed as follows: For the First Division, cross with straight dash over ⊤; for the Second Division, cross with straight dash under ⊥; for the Third Division, cross with straight dash on right-hand side ⊣; for the Fourth Division, cross with straight dash on left-hand side ⊢.

3. If more than one division, but not the whole corps, move upon the same road, the corps cross will be blazed on the trees, and the division mark, according to the divisions present will be added thereto. For instance, for the First and Fourth Divisions moving on the same road, a cross with a dash above and on left-hand side ⊢. For Second, Third, and Fourth Divisions moving on same road, corps cross with dash on right and left hand side and under it ⊢.

Division commanders are charged with the promulgation and execution of this order.

By order of Maj. Gen. P. Jos. Osterhaus:

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 6, 1865.

Col. D. MILES,
Commanding Third Brig., First Div., Fourteenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: You will at once move with your brigade to Cherokee Hill, on the road leading to Ebenezer Church (and the same road on which our column marched until within five miles of Savannah), and on arriving there you will relieve a brigade of General Baird's division guarding the stock of the corps grazing in that vicinity. You will probably be relieved to-morrow.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. SMITH,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MIDDLE MILITARY DIVISION,
January 6, 1865.

Brevet Major-General GROVER,
Commanding Second Division, Nineteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you proceed with your division at 10 o'clock to-day via the railroad to the city of Baltimore. On your arrival at the city of Baltimore you will without

delay embark your troops on transports already there in readiness for you. After you have embarked your command you will proceed to Fortress Monroe and there rendezvous, telegraphing to Lieutenant-General Grant immediately on your arrival. You will have to use the utmost vigilance to guard against desertion, large bounties, and the numerous bounty brokers who will be at work.

I am, general, very respectfully, &c.,

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Brevet Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *January 7, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Fortress Monroe:

Please say to General Sherman I do not regard the capture of Charleston as of any military importance. He can pass it by, unless in doing so he leaves a force in his rear which it will be dangerous to have there. It will be left entirely to his own discretion whether Charleston should be taken now.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

STEAMER NEVADA,
Off Fort Monroe, January 7, 1865—12.15 p. m.

General GRANT:

Have just received your telegram of this date and will communicate your views to General Sherman. Will be off in half an hour. With good wishes for you,

Yours, truly,

E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January 7, 1865.

Admiral DAHLGREN,
Savannah River:

DEAR ADMIRAL: The letter you send me is from Admiral Porter, at Beaufort, N. C. I am not certain that there is a vessel in Port Royal from Admiral Porter or I would write him. If there be one to return to him I beg you to send this, with a request that I be advised as early as possible as to the condition of the railroad from Beaufort, N. C., back to New Berne, and so on toward Goldsborough; also all maps and information of the country above New Berne; how many cars and locomotives are available to us on that road; whether there is good navigation from Beaufort, N. C., via Pamlico Sound, up Neuse River, &c. I want Admiral Porter to know that I expect to be ready to move about the 15th; that I have one head of column across Savannah River at this point; will soon have another at Port Royal Ferry, and expect to make another crossing at Sister's Ferry. I still adhere to my plan submitted to General Grant, and only await provisions and forage. The more I think of the affair at Wilmington the more I feel ashamed

of the army there; but Butler is at fault, and he alone. Admiral Porter fulfilled his share to admiration. I think the admiral will feel more confidence in my troops, as he saw us carry points on the Mississippi where he had silenced the fire. All will turn out for the best yet.

I am, with respect, yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 7, 1865.

Mr. ISAIAH BEASLEY and OTHERS:

GENTLEMEN: By direction of General Sherman I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of yours dated January 3. He has also had an interview with the bearer of the same, Mr. Rodgers. He wishes me to express his satisfaction at your earnestness and progress, and wishes you to go on quietly and secretly with your organization. Keep up constant communication with the commanding officer here, whoever he may be, and who will always assist you. You cannot depend on General Sherman always being here, but you will meet with encouragement from our officers. You had better send in at times some of those guerrillas and persons who give you trouble, and we will dispose of them as prisoners of war, or if they are guerrillas and bushwhackers will banish them from the country or punish them. General Kilpatrick will be informed of your society and intentions, and you can feel assured of his good will and influence. The pass you have proposed will be adopted, and General Kilpatrick's officers will be notified.

I am, gentlemen, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 7.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Savannah, Ga., January 7, 1865.

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II. 1. Capt. C. B. Reese, chief engineer, will direct the pontoon train, in charge of Lieutenant-Colonel Tweeddale, to at once proceed to Fort Thunderbolt, preparatory to embarkation to Beaufort, S. C., to which point it will follow the Seventeenth Corps as soon as transportation can be furnished.

2. Major General Osterhaus, commanding Fifteenth Army Corps, will hold his command in readiness to move to Beaufort, S. C., and will send one division to Fort Thunderbolt Monday morning, the 9th instant, preparatory to embarkation. The remainder of his command will follow as soon as transportation can be furnished. He will continue to furnish the necessary daily details for labor on the fortifications heretofore ordered, or so much thereof as the decreasing number of his troops present will admit, relieving each division when ready to embark from all details by details from remaining divisions.

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By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 7, 1865.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES R. WOODS,
Commanding First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to inform you that orders have been received at these headquarters looking to an early embarkation of the corps. You will therefore hold your division in readiness for a movement by water, reducing by inspections the baggage of the command to a proper limit. Division quartermasters will confer with Lieutenant-Colonel Fort, chief quartermaster for the corps, with reference to transportation, and division commissaries with Lieutenant-Colonel Carpenter as to the amount of rations to be procured. When the order for the embarkation shall be issued it will be by divisions, and all details then absent will be drawn in, their place being supplied by others from the remaining divisions of the corps. These instructions will be considered as confidential.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Generals Hazen, Smith, and Corse.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose to you a late Charleston paper, and the report of a deserter from the Third South Carolina Cavalry. It appears that a force of militia, estimated by General Hatch at 5,000 men, is assembling at or near Grahamville. General Hatch estimated the force in his front at 6,000 men. He thinks preparations are in progress by the enemy for evacuating the country near the coast and as far north as the Ashepoo River. Reports from General Schimmelfennig, at Morris Island, state that the enemy on James Island is being re-enforced. I shall send one regiment to General Schimmelfennig at once. The proclamation of the governor of South Carolina and the official orders published in the paper show that the State is girding up her loins for the coming fight. "All persons capable of bearing arms between the ages of sixteen and sixty" is rather trenching on the "cradle and the grave."

Very respectfully and truly,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 7, 1865.

Brig. Gen. A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Commanding Northern District, Morris Island, S. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your official report of the 30th ultimo, inclosing copy of an intercepted dispatch in regard to Fort Fisher.* I am directed by the major-general

* See Vol. XLIV, p. 839.

commanding to state that he does not approve of the firing on the channel, as Lieutenant-General Grant has ordered all firing to cease except for important reasons. The naval battery can fire as much as they choose. A regiment of infantry will be sent to report to you for duty.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January 8, 1865.

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: My report of the Savannah campaign is finished. In spite of my urgency the map is not yet compiled, and the report of General Slocum is not yet in, so I must let the Arago depart without sending them. But as you are in possession of all substantial facts I suppose there is less anxiety for specific details. I am now moving my troops slowly and quietly to the new points, from which I can converge rapidly to my intended place of concentration; but I must have more bread and oats, but hope to have them in the course of this week.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, January 8, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Comdg. Military Division of the Mississippi, Savannah:

GENERAL: Your dispatches, per Captain Audenried, were received and forwarded to Lieutenant-General Hardee, at Charleston. To facilitate the matter the substance was also telegraphed him. I now transmit herewith his response to your communication, and also a dispatch to myself upon the same subject, which will explain themselves.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General, C. S. Army.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

CHARLESTON, *January 7, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding U. S. Forces:
(Care of Major-General Wheeler.)

Your communication in relation to the point at which the citizens coming into our lines from Savannah shall be delivered is received. I request that, if practicable, they be sent to Charleston Harbor. If this shall not meet with your concurrence, then I suggest Purysburg, on the Savannah River, as the place, and Wednesday, 11th instant, as the time of delivery.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

CHARLESTON, *January 7, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

General Hardee desires you to inform General Sherman that, owing to the difficulty in transportation, he would be gratified by General Sherman delivering the citizens in Charleston Harbor.

H. W. FEILDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[JANUARY 8, 1865.—For Special Field Orders, No. 6, Military Division of the Mississippi (Sherman's), announcing congratulatory letters from President Lincoln and General Grant for services rendered during the campaign resulting in the capture of Savannah and the defeat of Hood's army in Tennessee, &c., see Vol. XLIV, p. 16.]

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Savannah, Ga., January 8, 1865.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

DEAR SIR: Major-General Osterhaus, who has been commanding the Fifteenth Army Corps for the last three months during the temporary absence of General Logan, feeling a delicacy about displacing any one of the admirable division commanders of the corps, has concluded to take a leave of absence, now that General Logan has returned, and to apply for assignment elsewhere at the expiration of the leave. I wish to commend to you again Major-General Osterhaus for a brave, energetic, and faithful soldier. He has been of essential service to me during the last two campaigns, where he added new luster to a reputation already national. If you could assign him to a field of labor suited to his taste and talents, I feel sure that he would honor the Government and perform his trust with assiduity.

With high esteem, I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Savannah, January 8, 1865.

Statement of Joseph Houston, second lieutenant, Company F, Ninety-fifth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and Seth Wheaton, second lieutenant, Fifty-ninth Regiment U. S. Infantry (colored), [who] came into the lines the 7th instant:

We escaped from Columbia, S. C., about the 1st instant, struck the Savannah River eleven miles below Augusta, and came down in a dug-out. Passed two camps of deserters from Wheeler's command of about 100 men each; heard of another camp of 300 men; were informed by a free negro pilot, who furnished us a chart of the river, that about 3,000 men had crossed the river on their way home; after crossing most of them threw away their arms and sold their horses. Other negroes

confirmed this. We were told of two gun-boats being at Augusta. These, and one transport we passed lying near Mathews' Bluff, were said to be all the boats now on the river. Reports came to us from citizens and negroes all along the river that when General Sherman advanced Charleston would be given up and a line formed from Branchville to Mathews' Bluff; an order had been issued by General Hardee conscripting 40,000 negroes to construct works, and calling upon citizens to remove their stock north of this line. All the troops in South Carolina were said to be concentrating at Branchville. Negroes told us that all the people with their stock were moving to the north of Branchville. We passed Mathews' Bluff in the night; saw camp-fires and heard voices; we were so near that we heard one man remark to another, "Colonel, I am under a thousand obligations to you." The distance from Mathews' Bluff to Branchville is called thirty-five miles. We judge the distance from Savannah to the Bluff by river to be 125 miles. We saw no obstructions in the river below the Bluff except at one point, perhaps thirty miles from there; these had been there some time and were easily passed. Above the river there is but one bad place, which is called "Little Hell."

Taken by—

D. W. WHITTLE,
Captain and Assistant Provost-Marshal-General,
Department and Army of the Tennessee.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Savannah, January 8, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding.

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 8.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Savannah, Ga., January 8, 1865.

* * * * * * *

IX. These headquarters will remove to Beaufort, S. C., to-morrow, the 9th instant. Lieut. Col. W. E. Strong, assistant inspector-general and chief of staff, will remain to superintend the embarkation of the Fifteenth Corps and perform all other business connected with the command, which completed, he will report to the major-general commanding. Captain Reese, chief engineer, will remain in charge of the fortifications until further orders. Captain Buel, chief ordnance officer; Captain Pearson, chief commissary of musters; Asst. Surg. D. L. Huntington, assistant medical director, and Lieutenants Taylor and Stickney, will also remain, performing the duties of their respective departments.

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By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Savannah, Ga., January 8, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say to you that the movement of your command can be postponed for one day. As soon as the transportation of the Seventeenth Corps has been shipped the pontoon bridge will be transported. There will be no need of waiting until the entire bridge is transported, as some of the boats can carry nothing but troops.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. E. STRONG,
Assistant Inspector-General and Chief of Staff.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 4. HDQRS. FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 8, 1865.

I hereby assume command of the Fifteenth Army Corps. All orders and instructions now in force will continue so until further orders.

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 6. HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 8, 1865.

I. This division will move from its present camp to-morrow, the 9th instant, at 7 a. m., taking the main road to Thunderbolt, the First Brigade in advance, followed by the Second and Third Brigades, respectively. The brigade transportation will march in rear of its own brigade. The ambulance train will move in the rear of the division, followed by the division train, the latter under the direction of Captain Schenk, division quartermaster. The regiments from this command now doing duty in the city will be relieved by other troops to-day. All fatigue, guard, and other details that may be out from the different brigades will rejoin their commands to-morrow in town to march out with the troops at 7 a. m.

By order of Brig. Gen. C. R. Woods:

FRED. H. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 8, 1865. (Received 15th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: In order to be able to garrison all the posts in this department I find it necessary to make available every soldier I have. For this purpose I would respectfully ask permission to send North the rebel officers, prisoners of war, that were sent to this department for retaliation. These now number about 500, about 100 of them having been exchanged by Colonel Mulford as being sick and unfit for service.

As the rebel authorities have since removed our prisoners from under fire in the city of Charleston, and these rebel officers being accordingly removed from Morris Island to this post and Fort Pulaski, there seems no necessity of keeping them for the original purpose for which they were sent, as General Hardee has stated that it was not the intention to expose our prisoners to the fire on Charleston. The granting of the above request will liberate one of my best regiments from guard duty and make it available for service in the field or garrison. I respectfully request to be informed, if you see fit to grant this request, to what point they are to be shipped.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 8, 1865. (Received 15th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter* of the 31st ultimo in regard to the organization of all the able-bodied negroes brought in by General Sherman's army to this department for service in this department, and beg leave to express my gratification at this decision, because I need troops for garrison duty very much, and I can soon make these men available for that duty. I have several officers whose military excellence and gallantry fully entitle them to promotion to be officers in the new regiments. I anticipate no difficulty whatever in organizing these regiments and in obtaining most excellent officers. I will report the appointments, as soon as made, for confirmation by the President. In obedience to your direction, as soon as the letter was received I submitted it to General Sherman, who desired that I might carry out the order as soon as he moved and the city was turned over to my command. Until such time he desired the services of all the negro men in the quartermaster's department in loading and unloading vessels and in other preparations for a forward movement.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 8, 1865. (Received 15th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter† of the 31st ultimo relative to the removal of the families of rebel officers in Savannah beyond our lines. In obedience to your directions I at once showed the letter to General Sherman, who desired that I might execute the order myself, and do so as soon as his army had left

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* See Vol. XLIV, p. 847.
† See Vol. XLIV, p. 846.

and the city turned over to my command. I will accordingly execute the order as soon as I am placed in command and report the action at once.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Savannah, January 9, 1865.

General L. C. EASTON,
Chief Quartermaster, Savannah:

GENERAL: I have undertaken to send the families from Savannah to Charleston, and have fixed Wednesday, the 11th instant, to take them on board at our wharves. Captain Audenried, of my staff, will conduct the business, and I will authorize any expense necessary to carry out the undertaking. Please give public notice that the families who choose to leave Savannah under existing orders will be transported to Charleston, and that a steamer will receive them at such a time at such a dock on Wednesday. Place the steamer at the disposal of Captain Audenried. I think the admiral would cheerfully give you the use of the Harvest Moon, and Captain Audenried can relieve you of all details by simply giving him the necessary means and authority.

I am, &c.,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 9, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER, C. S. Army:

GENERAL: Yours of January 8, with dispatches inclosed, is received. I will send the families, as requested, to Charleston Harbor, and give public notice that a steamer will take them on board here on Wednesday, and suppose they can reach the anchorage off Charleston next day; but should any delay occur it will arise from the endless excuses made by ladies, which General Hardee will understand. I will order my quartermaster to have a steamer at the wharf all Wednesday, to transport families to Charleston, to carry a small guard and flag to our gun-boat anchorage, and thence to such point as the naval commander may suggest.

Very truly, yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 7.

HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 9, 1865.

I. The First Regiment Alabama Cavalry Volunteers, Col. George E. Spencer commanding, is hereby relieved from duty with the Depart-

ment and Army of the Tennessee, and is assigned to the cavalry division of Brig. Gen. J. Kilpatrick. Colonel Spencer will report to General Kilpatrick for instruction.

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By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Aide-de-Camp.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 4. } *Savannah, Ga., January 9, 1865.*

I. Capt. L. H. Everts, assistant adjutant-general, having returned from absent sick, will at once resume his duties as assistant adjutant-general of this division, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly. All reports, official communications, &c., will therefore hereafter be addressed to him.

By order of Brig. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Savannah, Ga., January 9, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have directed the Ninth Illinois to remain here for the present and drive some cattle that belong to us, in company with the Left Wing. I find that General Sherman intends to give the First Alabama to Kilpatrick and possibly the Ninth Illinois. I have resisted the latter transfer.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 3. } *Beaufort, S. C., January 9, 1865.*

I. This command will be prepared to move at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning to the camp selected to-day, the First Brigade taking the left of the road and the Third the right.

II. The necessary wagons will be at these headquarters at 8.30 a. m., and will be called for by the brigade quartermaster.

III. Each regiment will fix up a comfortable camp and dig wells for water, instead of using the stagnant water in the swamp. Brigade commanders will send word by the bearer the smallest number of wagons that they will require, and leave a permanent detail of one commissioned officer, a suitable number of non-commissioned officers, and fifty men to report to Captain Moore, at these headquarters, to unload the transportation when it arrives.

By order of Brig. Gen. Giles A. Smith:

CHAS. H. BRUSH,
First Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. TWENTIETH CORPS, PROVOST-MARSHAL'S OFFICE,
Savannah, Ga., January 9, 1865.

Lieut. Col. H. W. PERKINS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

SIR: I have the honor to report the arrival through our lines of three citizens, employés of the Georgia Central Railroad Company, two from Macon and one from Augusta. They report the road in running order from Macon to Gordon, on the 1st of January, which was all to be repaired, for the time being, of this road. The authorities were preparing the Macon and Atlanta road for the purpose of opening communication with Augusta, and had, on the 25th ultimo, still thirty miles to repair. They were not repairing the West Point road. The line was to be via Columbus, Macon, and Atlanta to Augusta. Railroad iron was very scarce, and it was doubtful whether they had sufficient to complete their line. The bridge over the Oconee River, on the Atlanta and Augusta road, was not yet repaired, and the authorities were at great loss for sawed timber, their mills all having been burned. The road would not be in running order for a month or more. The Augusta papers of the 4th had in them a telegram, partly official, announcing the death of General Hood. It was not considered true. The latest telegrams received and published reported his army endeavoring to cross the Tennessee, but had been prevented by flood and loss of pontoons. Much anxiety was felt for this army. All kinds of rumors prevailed concerning Lee's army, as to evacuating Richmond, re enforcing the forces in South Carolina, &c. There seemed to be no authority for any. The garrison in and around Augusta seemed to number about 1,000. General Fry was commanding the post. Considerable force was reported at Branchville. Telegraph line was up from Augusta to Macon.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WARHAM PARKS,
Major and Provost-Marshal, Twentieth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 9, 1865. (Received 15th.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: The latest reports from deserters, refugees, flags of truce, and the rumors of the citizens of Savannah (whence I have just returned, having gone for General Sherman's mail), are to the effect that several counties of Georgia have, by meetings, declared their desire to join the Union, and forwarded copies of their proceedings to General Sherman; that one regiment of old troops, stationed at Grahamville, has thrown down its arms and returned to Georgia; that the governor of Georgia, Governor Brown, has testified his disposition to return to the Union, and that he is willing to submit the question to the vote of the people; and that the Georgia Reserves at Augusta have disbanded and gone home. There is no doubt about the holding of the Union meetings in several counties. In one of them, Thomas County, a fight took place and the Unionists whipped. The other reports are credible, but not fully confirmed. There is evidently a great struggle going on in the public sentiment of the Georgians, and the question seems to be how much they dare risk in declaring their sentiments in favor of reconstruction.

Very respectfully and truly, yours,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 9, 1865.

Rear-Admiral J. A. DAHLGREN,
Commanding South Atlantic Blockading Squadron:

ADMIRAL: I have the honor to request that you will furnish one or two armed tugs, in addition to the gun-boat at Tullifinny Landing, to cover the embarkation of General Hatch's force. This embarkation will take place between two and five days from this time.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *January 10, 1865.*

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Washington:

The following items are found in to-day's Richmond papers:

THE FIRE AT CHARLOTTE.—ADDITIONAL PARTICULARS.

CHARLOTTE, *January 9.*

The fire which occurred here Saturday morning was the result of accident. The paymaster's office, in which the fire originated, the Government warehouses, including the quartermaster's and commissary offices, and a portion of the North Carolina and Charlotte and South Carolina depot buildings were burned. The loss was at first estimated as high as $20,000,000 in present currency, but has since been greatly reduced by the quantity of grain, sugar, &c., saved from the ruins.

CHARLESTON, *January 8.*

A dispatch from Graham's, dated 12 p. m., says:

"No news from the enemy this morning. A gentleman just from Savannah reports that Sherman has sent the Seventeenth Army Corps round to Beaufort to co-operate with Foster's troops between Pocotaligo and Coosawhatchie."

CHARLESTON, *January 9.*

Nothing received from below to-day. A dispatch from Macon reports the enemy 1,000 or 2,000 strong, with wagons and artillery, on the Ohoopee River, moving in the direction of Southwestern Georgia. General Joseph E. Johnston was in Columbia, S. C., on the 5th instant.

SUPPLIES AND RAILROADS.

A fire has occurred in a Government store-house at Charlotte, in North Carolina. It contained 40,000 bushels of corn, only 10,000 bushels of which was saved, and that in a parched condition; also some sugar, no meat. This is the loss. By what means it was caused, whether by the agency of a Yankee incendiary or simple negligence of a guard, is not yet ascertained. The public attention is much more engaged with the general facts that vast accumulations of supplies are made in that quarter which are not forwarded to the army with the diligence required by the present condition of affairs. The fault is evidently in the railroads between Richmond and Greensborough, and the blame has generally been laid on the Richmond and Danville Company.

LATEST FROM THE SOUTH AND SOUTHWEST.

The following dispatch has been received at the War Department from Macon, Ga.:

"General Hood reports from Tupelo, January 6, 1865, that Thomas appeared to be moving up the Tennessee River. Until 9 a. m. on the 5th scouts report six gun-boats and sixty transports had passed Savannah, going toward Eastport, loaded with troops and supplies.

"G. T. BEAUREGARD,
"Major-General."

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 8. } HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI, *In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 10, 1865.*

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IV. Capt. Platt M. Thorne, Company H, One hundred and fiftieth Regiment New York Infantry Volunteers, is hereby assigned as chief of ordnance for the Left Wing, and will report for duty to Maj. Gen. H. W. Slocum, commanding.

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By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 10, 1865.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have allowed the corps commanders of this army to raise a colored regiment each for pioneer work. The Seventeenth Corps has succeeded in raising about 800 men. I respectfully request the same authority to appoint officers for these organizations as that received by the commanding general Department of the South. The regimental organization is superior to the ordinary pioneer force, commanded by detailed officers, and is much better in point of economy.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 10, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR, Jr.,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I feel surprised, after the precautions that have been taken by yourself and officers, to find that many depredations have been committed near this place, and certain things done that would disgrace us even in the enemy's country, *e. g.*, the robbing of some negroes and abusing their women. Please ascertain, if possible, approximately, the amount of damage wantonly committed on the island, and have it assessed on the brigade or regiment guilty.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 10, 1865.

The attention of division and subordinate commanders in this corps is again called to the necessity of immediately putting their commands in readiness for another campaign. The men must be thoroughly clothed and equipped. Requisitions must be at once made on the quartermaster's and ordnance departments to put the command in

condition for active service. This must be attended to immediately, as our stay here will probably be short, and when the time arrives the command will move, whether in readiness or not.

By command of Brig. Gen. A. S. Williams:

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MCINTOSH COUNTY, *January 11, 1865.*

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding U. S. Army:

The undersigned, justices of the Inferior Court for the county of McIntosh, have been expecting, since our county and its neighborhood are in the possession of your troops, to receive from you such a proclamation as would define our present position, in obedience to which we would receive protection in our destitute situation. Disappointed in our expectation, in compliance with sundry applications from the suffering families of our county, we have appointed one of our body, Justice O. C. Hopkins, together with any one or more of our citizens who may volunteer to accompany him, instructing them to wait on you, explain our situation and the object of their visit to you, respectfully asking of your kindness a friendly reception and protection in their behalf.

Be pleased to accept the assurance of our sincere consideration. In testimony whereof we have hereto affixed our official signatures and the seal of the Inferior Court of the county of McIntosh this 11th day of January, 1865.

P. DE L. CHARTIN, *J. I. C.*
O. C. HOPKINS, *J. I. C.*
W. MIDDLETON. *J. I. C.*

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. —.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Savannah, Ga., January 11, 1865.

The medical purveying depot of the Department of the South will continue at Hilton Head, any previous orders to the contrary notwithstanding.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 3.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 11, 1865.

The officers and soldiers of this army are reminded that all the land on this island (Port Royal) either belongs to the United States or is owned by people loyal to our Government and friendly disposed toward its soldiers, and it is therefore incumbent on them to afford the inhabitants of the district the kindest personal treatment and protection for their property. Personal abuse of the people will be most severely punished, and the amount of damage wantonly and unlawfully done

to their property will be assessed to and collected from the individuals guilty, if they can be ascertained, and from companies, regiments, brigades, divisions, and corps, as the case may be, if the parties responsible are not found and reported.

This order will be read to every regiment, battery, and detachment of this command at parade for three successive days.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 9.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 11, 1865.

I. Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair, commanding Seventeenth Army Corps, will make every preparation to cross the Whale Branch of Coosaw River at daylight on Friday morning, the 13th instant. The pontoons will be laid at Port Royal Ferry and the first troops that cross will construct a small bridge-head. Just as soon as his command can cross General Blair will push on and secure Pocotaligo. Such portion of the Fifteenth Corps as may have in the meantime arrived will follow the Seventeenth Corps and support the movement. The troops will carry three days' rations in haversack.

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By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 8.

HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Beaufort, S. C., January 11, 1865.

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III. This command will be prepared to move at daylight on Friday morning (the 13th instant) with three days' rations in haversacks. The ordnance train will be taken with the command. The supply train will remain in its present position until further orders.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 10.

HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 12, 1865.

I. Bvt. Brig. Gen. L. C. Easton, chief quartermaster, will turn over to Simeon Draper, esq., agent of the U. S. Treasury Department, all cotton now in the city of Savannah, prize of war, taking his receipt for the same in gross for quantity and returning for it to the Quartermaster-General. He will also afford Mr. Draper all the facilities in his power in the way of transportation, labor, &c., to enable him to handle the cotton with expedition.

II. General Easton will also turn over to Mr. Draper the custom-house, and such other buildings in the city of Savannah as he may need in the execution of his office.

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By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January 12, 1865.

Major-General HALLECK:

MY DEAR FRIEND: I received yours of January 1* about the "negro." Since Mr. Stanton got here we have talked over all matters freely, and I deeply regret that I am threatened with that curse to all peace and comfort—popularity; but I trust to bad luck enough in the future to cure that, for I know enough of "the people" to feel that a single mistake made by some of my subordinates will tumble down my fame into infamy.

But the nigger? Why, in God's name, can't sensible men let him alone? When the people of the South tried to rule us through the negro, and became insolent, we cast them down, and on that question we are strong and unanimous. Neither cotton, the negro, nor any single interest or class should govern us.

But I fear, if you be right that that power behind the throne is growing, somebody must meet it or we are again involved in war with another class of fanatics. Mr. Lincoln has boldly and well met the one attack, now let him meet the other.

If it be insisted that I shall so conduct my operations that the negro alone is consulted, of course I will be defeated, and then where will be Sambo?

Don't military success imply the safety of Sambo and vice versa? Of course that cock-and-bull story of my turning back negroes that Wheeler might kill them is all humbug. I turned nobody back. Jeff. C. Davis did at Ebenezer Creek forbid certain plantation slaves—old men, women, and children—to follow his column; but they would come along and he took up his pontoon bridge, not because he wanted to leave them, but because he wanted his bridge.

He and Slocum both tell me that they don't believe Wheeler killed one of them. Slocum's column (30,000) reports 17,000 negroes. Now, with 1,200 wagons and the necessary impedimenta of an army, overloaded with two-thirds negroes, five-sixths of whom are helpless, and a large proportion of them babies and small children, had I encountered an enemy of respectable strength defeat would have been certain.

Tell the President that in such an event defeat would have cost him ten thousand times the effort to overcome that it now will to meet this new and growing pressure.

I know the fact that all natural emotions swing as the pendulum. These southrons pulled Sambo's pendulum so far over that the danger is it will on its return jump off its pivot. There are certain people who will find fault, and they can always get the pretext; but, thank God, I am not running for an office, and am not concerned because the rising generation will believe that I burned 500 niggers at one pop in

* General Halleck's copy is dated December 30, 1864; see Vol. XLIV, p. 836.

Atlanta, or any such nonsense. I profess to be the best kind of a friend to Sambo, and think that on such a question Sambo should be consulted.

They gather round me in crowds, and I can't find out whether I am Moses or Aaron, or which of the prophets; but surely I am rated as one of the congregation, and it is hard to tell in what sense I am most appreciated by Sambo—in saving him from his master, or the new master that threatens him with a new species of slavery. I mean State recruiting agents. Poor negro—Lo, the poor Indian! Of course, sensible men understand such humbug, but some power must be invested in our Government to check these wild oscillations of public opinion.

The South deserves all she has got for her injustice to the negro, but that is no reason why we should go to the other extreme.

I do and will do the best I can for negroes, and feel sure that the problem is solving itself slowly and naturally. It needs nothing more than our fostering care. I thank you for the kind hint and will heed it so far as mere appearances go, but, not being dependent on votes, I can afford to act, as far as my influence goes, as a fly wheel instead of a mainspring.

With respect, &c., yours,

W. T. SHERMAN.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Savannah, Ga., January 12, 1865.

Brevet Major-General MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

SIR: The Secretary of War directs that you assume the charge of the captured cotton in this city and provide for its proper care and preservation until further orders. You will consider yourself charged with the duty of having sufficient guards and precautions for its security, and will apply to the commanding general for any force required. You will also detail a competent quartermaster for the special duty of seeing to its being turned over and receipted for by agents of the Treasury Department.

I am, sir, &c.,

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Minutes of an interview between the colored ministers and church officers at Savannah with the Secretary of War and Major-General Sherman.

HEADQUARTERS OF MAJOR-GENERAL SHERMAN,
In the City of Savannah, Ga., Thursday evening, January 12, 1865—8 p. m.

On the evening of Thursday, the 12th day of January, 1865, the following persons of African descent met, by appointment, to hold an interview with Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War, and Major-General Sherman, to have a conference upon matters relating to the freedmen of the State of Georgia, to wit:

1. William J. Campbell, aged fifty-one years, born in Savannah; slave until 1849, and then liberated by will of his mistress, Mrs. Mary Maxwell; for ten years pastor of the First Baptist Church of Savannah,

numbering about 1,800 members; average congregation, 1,900; the church property, belonging to the congregation (trustees white), worth $18,000.

2. John Cox, aged fifty-eight years, born in Savannah; slave until 1849, when he bought his freedom for $1,100; pastor of the Second African Baptist Church; in the ministry fifteen years; congregation, 1,222 persons; church property, worth $10,000, belonging to the congregation.

3. Ulysses L. Houston, aged forty-one years, born in Grahamville, S. C.; slave "until the Union army entered Savannah;" owned by Moses Henderson, Savannah, and pastor of Third African Baptist Church, congregation numbering 400; church property, worth $5,000, belongs to congregation; in the ministry about eight years.

4. William Bentley, aged seventy-two years, born in Savannah; slave until twenty-five years of age, when his master, John Waters, emancipated him by will; pastor of Andrew's Chapel, Methodist Episcopal Church (only one of that denomination in Savannah), congregation numbering 360 members; church property worth about $20,000, and is owned by the congregation; been in the ministry about twenty years; a member of Georgia conference.

5. Charles Bradwell, aged forty years, born in Liberty County, Ga.; slave until 1851; emancipated by will of his master, J. L. Bradwell; local preacher, in charge of the Methodist Episcopal congregation (Andrew's Chapel) in the absence of the minister; in the ministry ten years.

6. William Gaines, aged forty-one years, born in Wills County, Ga.; slave "until the Union forces freed me;" owned by Robert Toombs, formerly U. S. Senator, and his brother, Gabriel Toombs; local preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church (Andrew's Chapel); in the ministry sixteen years.

7. James Hill, aged fifty-two years, born in Bryan County, Ga.; slave "up to the time the Union army come in;" owned by H. F. Willings, of Savannah; in the ministry sixteen years.

8. Glasgow Taylor, aged seventy-two years, born in Wilkes County, Ga.; slave "until the Union army come;" owned by A. P. Wetter; is a local preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church (Andrew's Chapel); in the ministry thirty-five years.

9. Garrison Frazier, aged sixty-seven years, born in Granville County, N. C.; slave until eight years ago, when he bought himself and wife, paying $1,000 in gold and silver; is an ordained minister in the Baptist Church, but, his health failing, has now charge of no congregation; has been in the ministry thirty-five years.

10. James Mills, aged fifty-six years, born in Savannah; freeborn, and is a licensed preacher of the First Baptist Church; has been eight years in the ministry.

11. Abraham Burke, aged forty-eight years, born in Bryan County, Ga.; slave until twenty years ago, when he bought himself for $800; has been in the ministry about ten years.

12. Arthur Wardell, aged forty-four years, born in Liberty County, Ga.; slave until "freed by the Union army;" owned by A. A. Solomons, Savannah, and is a licensed minister in the Baptist Church; has been in the ministry six years.

13. Alexander Harris, aged forty-seven years, born in Savannah; freeborn; licensed minister of Third African Baptist Church; licensed about one month ago.

14. Andrew Neal, aged sixty-one years, born in Savannah; slave "until the Union army liberated me;" owned by Mr. William Gibbons, and has been deacon in the Third Baptist Church for ten years.

15. James Porter, aged thirty-nine years, born in Charleston, S. C.; freeborn, his mother having purchased her freedom; is lay reader and president of the board of wardens and vestry of Saint Stephen's Protestant Episcopal Colored Church in Savannah; has been in communion nine years; the congregation numbers about 200 persons; the church property is worth about $10,000, and is owned by the congregation.

16. Adolphus Delmotte, aged twenty-eight years, born in Savannah; freeborn; is a licensed minister of the Missionary Baptist Church of Milledgeville, congregation numbering about 300 or 400 persons; has been in the ministry about two years.

17. Jacob Godfrey, aged fifty-seven years, born in Marion, S. C.; slave "until the Union army freed me;" owned by James E. Godfrey, Methodist preacher, now in the rebel army; is a class leader and steward of Andrew's Chapel since 1836.

18. John Johnson, aged fifty-one years, born in Bryan County, Ga.; slave "up to the time the Union army came here;" owned by W. W. Lincoln, of Savannah; is class leader and treasurer of Andrew's Chapel for sixteen years.

19. Robert N. Taylor, aged fifty-one years, born in Wilkes County, Ga.; slave "to the time the Union army come;" was owned by Augustus P. Wetter, Savannah, and is class leader in Andrew's Chapel for nine years.

20. James Lynch, aged twenty-six years, born in Baltimore, Md.; freeborn; is presiding elder of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and missionary to the Department of the South; has been seven years in the ministry and two years in the South.

Garrison Frazier, being chosen by the persons present to express their common sentiments upon the matters of inquiry, makes answers to inquiries as follows:

First. State what your understanding is in regard to the acts of Congress and President Lincoln's proclamation touching the condition of the colored people in the rebel States.

Answer. So far as I understand President Lincoln's proclamation to the rebellious States, it is, that if they would lay down their arms and submit to the laws of the United States before the 1st of January, 1863, all should be well, but if they did not, then all the slaves in the rebel States should be free, henceforth and forever. That is what I understood.

Second. State what you understand by slavery, and the freedom that was to be given by the President's proclamation.

Answer. Slavery is receiving by irresistible power the work of another man, and not by his consent. The freedom, as I understand it, promised by the proclamation is taking us from under the yoke of bondage and placing us where we could reap the fruit of our own labor and take care of ourselves and assist the Government in maintaining our freedom.

Third. State in what manner you think you can take care of yourselves, and how can you best assist the Government in maintaining your freedom.

Answer. The way we can best take care of ourselves is to have land, and turn in and till it by our labor—that is, by the labor of the women, and children, and old men—and we can soon maintain ourselves and have something to spare; and to assist the Government the young men should enlist in the service of the Government, and serve in such manner as they may be wanted. (The rebels told us that they piled

them up and made batteries of them, and sold them to Cuba, but we don't believe that.) We want to be placed on land until we are able to buy it and make it our own.

Fourth. State in what manner you would rather live, whether scattered among the whites or in colonies by yourselves?

Answer. I would prefer to live by ourselves, for there is a prejudice against us in the South that will take years to get over, but I do not know that I can answer for my brethren.

(Mr. Lynch says he thinks they should not be separated, but live together. All the other persons present being questioned, one by one, answer that they agree with "Brother Frazier.")

Fifth. Do you think that there is intelligence enough among the slaves of the South to maintain themselves under the Government of the United States, and the equal protection of its laws, and maintain good and peaceable relations among yourselves and with your neighbors?

Answer. I think there is sufficient intelligence among us to do so.

Sixth. State what is the feeling of the black population of the South toward the Government of the United States; what is the understanding in respect to the present war, its causes and object, and their disposition to aid either side. State fully your views.

Answer. I think you will find there is thousands that are willing to make any sacrifice to assist the Government of the United States, while there is also many that are not willing to take up arms. I do not suppose there is a dozen men that is opposed to the Government. I understand as to the war that the South is the aggressor. President Lincoln was elected President by a majority of the United States, which guaranteed him the right of holding the office and exercising that right over the whole United States. The South, without knowing what he would do, rebelled. The war was commenced by the rebels before he came into the office. The object of the war was not, at first, to give the slaves their freedom, but the sole object of the war was, at first, to bring the rebellious States back into the Union and their loyalty to the laws of the United States. Afterward, knowing the value that was set on the slaves by the rebels, the President thought that his proclamation would stimulate them to lay down their arms, reduce them to obedience, and help to bring back the rebel States, and their not doing so has now made the freedom of the slaves a part of the war. It is my opinion that there is not a man in this city that could be started to help the rebels one inch, for that would be suicide. There was two black men left with the rebels, because they had taken an active part for the rebels, and thought something might befall them if they staid behind, but there is not another man. If the prayers that have gone up for the Union army could be read out you would not get through them those two weeks.

Seventh. State whether the sentiments you now express are those only of the colored people in the city, or do they extend to the colored population through the country, and what are your means of knowing the sentiments of those living in the country.

Answer. I think the sentiments are the same among the colored people of the State. My opinion is formed by personal communication in the course of my ministry, and also from the thousands that followed the Union army, leaving their homes and undergoing suffering. I did not think there would be so many; the number surpassed my expectation.

Eighth. If the rebel leaders were to arm the slaves what would be its effect?

Answer. I think they would fight as long as they were before the bayonet, and just as soon as they could get away they would desert, in my opinion.

Ninth. What, in your opinion, is the feeling of the colored people about enlisting and serving as soldiers of the United States, and what kind of military service do they prefer?

Answer. A large number have gone as soldiers to Port Royal to be drilled and put in the service, and I think there is thousands of the young men that will enlist; there is something about them that, perhaps, is wrong; they have suffered so long from the rebels that they want to meet and have a chance with them in the field. Some of them want to shoulder the musket, others want to go into the quartermaster or the commissary's service.

Tenth. Do you understand the mode of enlistment of colored persons in the rebel States, by State agents, under the act of Congress? If yea, state what your understanding is.

Answer. My understanding is that colored persons enlisted by State agents are enlisted as substitutes, and give credit to the States, and do not swell the army, because every black man enlisted by a State agent leaves a white man at home; and also, that larger bounties are given or promised by the State agents than are given by the States. The great object should be to push through this rebellion the shortest way, and there seems to be something wanting in the enlistment by State agents, for it don't strengthen the army, but takes one away for every colored man enlisted.

Eleventh. State what, in your opinion, is the best way to enlist colored men for soldiers.

Answer. I think, sir, that all compulsory operations should be put a stop to. The ministers would talk to them, and the young men would enlist. It is my opinion that it would be far better for the State agents to stay at home, and the enlistments to be made for the United States under the direction of General Sherman.

In the absence of General Sherman the following question was asked:

Twelfth. State what is the feeling of the colored people in regard to General Sherman, and how far do they regard his sentiments and actions as friendly to their rights and interests, or otherwise.

Answer. We looked upon General Sherman, prior to his arrival, as a man, in the providence of God, specially set apart to accomplish this work, and we unanimously felt inexpressible gratitude to him, looking upon him as a man that should be honored for the faithful performance of his duty. Some of us called upon him immediately upon his arrival, and it is probable he did not meet the Secretary with more courtesy than he met us. His conduct and deportment toward us characterized him as a friend and a gentleman. We have confidence in General Sherman, and think that what concerns us could not be under better hands. This is our opinion now from the short acquaintance and intercourse we have had.

(Mr. Lynch states that, with his limited acquaintance with General Sherman, he is unwilling to express an opinion. All others present declare their agreement with Mr. Frazier about General Sherman.)

Some conversation upon general subjects relating to General Sherman's march then ensued, of which no note was taken.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, February 1, 1865.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and faithful report of the questions and answers made by the colored ministers and church members of Savannah in my presence and hearing at the chambers of Major-General Sherman, on the evening of Thursday, the 12th day of January, 1865. The questions of General Sherman and the Secretary of War were reduced to writing and read to the persons present. The answers were made by the reverend Garrison Frazier, who was selected by the other ministers and church members to answer for them. The answers were written down in his exact words, and read over to the others, who, one by one, expressed his concurrence or dissent, as above set forth.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. —.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Savannah, Ga., January 12, 1865.

The following officers are, by direction of the President, hereby assigned to duty according to their brevet rank:

Bvt. Maj. Gen. Charles R. Woods, U. S. Volunteers; Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse, U. S. Volunteers; Bvt. Maj. Gen. Giles A. Smith, U. S. Volunteers; Bvt. Maj. Gen. M. D. Leggett, U. S. Volunteers; Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams, U. S. Volunteers; Bvt. Maj. Gen. Judson Kilpatrick, U. S. Volunteers; Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary, U. S. Volunteers; Bvt. Maj. Gen. John E. Smith, U. S. Volunteers; Bvt. Maj. Gen. Absalom Baird, U. S. Volunteers; Bvt. Brig. Gen. W. T. Clark, U. S. Volunteers; Bvt. Brig. Gen. William B. Woods, U. S. Volunteers (colonel Seventy-sixth Ohio Volunteers); Bvt. Brig. Gen. Ario Pardee, jr., U. S. Volunteers (colonel One hundred and forty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers); Bvt. Brig. Gen. Henry A. Barnum, U. S. Volunteers (colonel One hundred and forty-ninth New York Volunteers); Bvt. Brig. Gen. George P. Buell, U. S. Volunteers (colonel Fifty-eighth Indiana Volunteers); Bvt. Brig. Gen. John H. Ketcham, U. S. Volunteers (colonel One hundred and fiftieth New York Volunteers); Bvt. Brig. Gen. William Cogswell, U. S. Volunteers (colonel Second Massachusetts Volunteers); Bvt. Brig. Gen. H. C. Hobart, U. S. Volunteers (colonel Twenty-first Wisconsin Volunteers); Bvt. Brig. Gen. B. D. Fearing, U. S. Volunteers (colonel Ninety-second Ohio Volunteers); Bvt. Brig. Gen. Smith D. Atkins, U. S. Volunteers (colonel Ninety-second Illinois Mounted Infantry).

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 4.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 12, 1865.

Capt. P. A. Taylor, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, having reported to the major-general commanding, in accordance with Special Orders, No. 343, War Department, October 12, 1864, will immediately assume command and direction of the signal detachment of this army, relieving Capt. J. M. McClintock, acting chief signal officer, therefrom. The major-general commanding desires to express to Captain McClintock his appreciation of the services rendered by him during the late campaign in Georgia.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 5.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 12, 1865.

The general commanding the Army of the Tennessee takes great pleasure in promulgating the following congratulatory order of Major-General Sherman, and in connection with it he wishes to renew the expressions of grateful acknowledgment due the officers and soldiers

of this command for the prominent part they have so successfully borne in the extensive and important operations referred to by the commander-in-chief.*

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 10.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 12, 1865.

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III. The movement of the Seventeenth Army Corps, as ordered by Special Field Orders, No. 9, from these headquarters, is postponed one day.

Major-General Blair will cause his command to be moved to the vicinity of Port Royal Ferry to-morrow and the preparations for crossing will be completed by the day after.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

THUNDERBOLT, *January 12, 1865—1 p. m.*

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that there still remains here ready for embarkation of the Seventeenth Army Corps about as follows: General Blair's headquarters, 25 wagons, 250 animals; Fourth Division, Seventeenth Army Corps, 16 wagons, 1,150 animals, 50 ambulances, six-gun battery (equal to 12 wagons), 100 animals; department headquarters, 110 animals; signal corps, 25 animals; pontoon train, 110 animals; total, 103 wagons, 1,745 animals. I am advised by officers of the Seventeenth Army Corps, now here, that at the average rate of shipment they will not all embark before to-morrow night or next day morning, after which we can commence on the transportation of the First Division of our corps. About one-third of General Woods' troops are gone and others embarking with the Seventeenth Corps transportation, some without taking their regimental wagons; others do not get even it on board. The troops of the First Division can all go at once if directed, and commence on the troops of the Second Division to-morrow afternoon, if necessary. Hardly any of these vessels but would carry a brigade of men after all transportation is on board. The great trouble is to store the animals on these little boats. I do not believe we can ship any of the Second Division transportation before Sunday afternoon or Monday, if then. Please advise the general that I will be in Savannah again to-night, and may be able to give him more satisfactory information then.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

G. L. FORT,
Lieut. Col. and Chief Quartermaster, Fifteenth Army Corps.

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* See Vol. XLIV, p. 16.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Beaufort, S. C., January 12, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. D. LEGGETT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say to you that the movement for to-morrow is countermanded, and will not be made until to-morrow night.

Very respectfully,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Brig. Gen. Giles A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 8. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
Beaufort, S. C., January 12, 1865.

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IV. The troops of this command will be held in readiness to move at any time during the night at twenty minutes' notice. The Second Brigade, Col. G. F. Wiles commanding, will have the advance. The regiments of this brigade will be held in readiness to move at ten minutes' notice.

The Fifteenth Ohio Battery, Lieutenant Bailey commanding, will follow the Second Brigade.

The First Brigade, Brig. Gen. M. F. Force commanding, will follow the Fifteenth Ohio Battery. Ambulances and two ammunition wagons will follow each brigade.

The transportation will follow in same order as the troops.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. D. Leggett:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 7. } WAR DEPARTMENT,
Savannah, Ga., January 12, 1865.

The limits of the Department of the South are extended so as to embrace the State of North Carolina. The headquarters will remain at Hilton Head. The department will, until further instructions, be subject to the orders and control of Major-General Sherman.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 10. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 12, 1865.

I. Lieut. Col. Charles B. Fox, commanding Fifty-fifth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, is hereby ordered to proceed to Thunderbolt Battery, near Savannah, Ga., with his command and disembark at that place without delay. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

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By command of Maj. Gen. J. G. Foster:

THORNDIKE D. HODGES,
Capt., 35th U. S. Colored Troops, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Morris Island, S. C., January 12, 1865.

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I would respectfully make the following report of the facts relative to the flag of truce which took place in Charleston Harbor this day:

At 9 a. m. I received a signal dispatch from Captain Scott, the commanding officer of the fleet, stating that a Captain Audenried was at the fleet with some citizens of Savannah to be sent through our lines by a flag of truce at Cole's Island. I immediately sent one of my aides to Captain Scott to obtain more particular information of the matter. He reported to me that my signal sergeant had made an error in the dispatch, which should have read Charleston Harbor instead of Cole's Island; that Captain Audenried represented himself as being one of General Sherman's staff, and that he was sent here for the above-mentioned business by the order of General Sherman. Captain Scott was unable to inform me whether the officer had any written authority or instructions, but suffered the steamer to pass the picket monitor to the rendezvous of exchange. As I had received no instructions from Major-General Foster in regard to the truce I acted upon my previous orders, and at once stopped the steamer in its progress before it had communicated with the rebel tug. I then dispatched my aide to confer with Captain Audenried, and to discover whether he was clothed with any written authority. If he were not my orders were to suspend the flag of truce. Not having such credentials, Captain Audenried came ashore to me at Fort Strong, and stated that his orders were verbal from General Sherman to transfer the parties. Upon such authority I told him I could not permit it, but while conversing with him I unexpectedly received the desired instructions from Major-General Foster, and at once allowed him to proceed. I regret to say that the dispatch referred to was culpably delayed in being forwarded to me by some now unknown parties, who, when discovered, will be severely punished. The unfortunate delay caused by this neglect of the quartermaster or captain of the steamer lasted about one hour.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Morris Island, S. C., January 12, 1865.

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the South:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a communication of the 11th instant from Major Anderson, aide-de-camp, containing information relative to a flag-of-truce boat sent here by order of General Sherman, and also apprising me of the intended visit of the honorable the Secretary of War to this island. The instructions therein contained will be fully carried out. I have also the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 7th instant,

disapproving of the firing in the channel, and also announcing the fact that a regiment of infantry will be sent to report to me before the expiration of many days. With regard to the firing, I have to report that during two nights twenty shots were fired by my batteries since my last communication. During the remaining nights the moon was so bright that the enemy's movements could be fully perceived, and as they attempted nothing there was no further firing. Regarding the arrival of the regiment, I have to say that, in my opinion, it is much needed; not from the fact that I apprehend an attack from the enemy, but on account of the necessity by which I am compelled to maintain a long outpost line. My men are often on duty for several nights in succession without sleep. This hard duty accounts for the increase in my sick list.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. O. O. HOWARD,
Commanding Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general-in-chief to acknowledge the receipt of yours in reference to promotions and your movement. He also directs me to say he wishes you to move on Pocotaligo as soon as you can be well prepared, and that success may be assured he does not wish you to hurry matters to the expense or endangering of success.

I am, general, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 11. } HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 13, 1865.

I. Surg. W. C. Bennett, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty as medical inspector of Twentieth Army Corps, and is assigned to the charge of hospitals of the Left Wing, Army of Georgia, in and around the city of Savannah.

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By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 11. } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 13, 1865.

I. Col. M. C. Garber, senior chief quartermaster, Department and Army of the Tennessee, is relieved from such duty, and will forthwith proceed to Washington, D. C., and report to the Quartermaster-General U. S. Army.

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IX. A force equal to a brigade, from the troops present of the First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, in command of Col. Thomas Curly, Twenty-seventh Missouri Infantry, will proceed to-morrow morning, the 14th instant, following the Seventeenth Corps, to Port Royal Ferry, at which point they will receive further orders from the major-general commanding.

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By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 13, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have no alteration to make in my statements to you last night in relation to the embarkation of the First Division. I do not think that the Seventeenth Army Corps will complete its embarkation before some time to-morrow, but will advise you as soon as I can find out. I do not think any of the Second Division can be embarked before Monday morning, unless you desire to send the troops before the transportation. I will see you to-night, and may know more about it then.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. L. FORT,
Lieut. Col. and Chief Quartermaster, Fifteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Thunderbolt, Ga., January 13, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Fifteenth Army Corps, Savannah, Ga.:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I sent off three regiments this morning. I have now left one small regiment from each brigade which I have retained for the purpose of furnishing details to load the wagons. If the Second Division comes down to-morrow morning they will be able to commence sending troops off. I have two additional wharves built which will facilitate the shipment of the corps very much.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Beaufort, S. C., January 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. A. MOWER,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say to you, in sending the inclosed order, that as soon as the bridge is laid the command will commence crossing. Colonel Kirby will make his movement for the capture of the pickets as soon as it is dark, and

when he succeeds in driving the enemy away the bridge will be laid. The forward movement on Pocotaligo will commence at daylight to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 10. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Beaufort, S. C., January 13, 1865.

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II. The following are the orders for the movement to-day:

1. At 3 o'clock this p. m. Brig. Gen. M. D. Leggett, commanding Third Division, will move his command to a point to be designated by Lieutenant-Colonel Kirby, picket officer, near the Port Royal Ferry.

2. At 4 p. m. Brig. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will move his command to a position in rear of General Leggett.

3. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will move forward at 5 p. m. and encamp near the river.

4. The pontoon train, Major Hill commanding, will move out at 1 o'clock this p. m. on the Port Royal Ferry road.

Brig. Gen. M. D. Leggett will detail from his command one regiment as guard to the pontoon train. This regiment will be prepared to move when the train passes the camp.

Brigadier-General Leggett will furnish such details as Lieutenant-Colonel Kirby may wish to effect a crossing. As soon as the crossing has been secured Brigadier-General Leggett will throw over the river in boats two regiments, who will at once throw up a bridge-head at the proper point to protect the bridge. The bridge will then be laid and the command crossed over and placed in camp until daylight to-morrow morning, when the forward movement on Pocotaligo will be commenced.

The command will be provided with three days' rations from to-morrow morning.

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By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Morris Island, S. C., January 13, 1865.

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the South:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that according to information received from deserters, the observations of my outposts, and the enemy's intercepted signal dispatches, there is now in my front about the same force of the enemy as was reported by me in a communication dated August 16, 1864, and of which a copy is herewith inclosed.* As far as changes have taken place to my knowledge I have marked them in red ink. Not only is the strength the same, but the identical regiments

* See Vol. XXXV, Part I, p. 70.

and companies are here now. The only troops reported last August of which I have lost track are the Fifth Georgia Infantry and some companies of the Thirty-second Georgia Infantry. More recent and specific information having been received with regard to the batteries, garrisons, &c., of Sullivan's Island, Mount Pleasant, and Fort Sumter, I herewith inclose the reports of Captain Luttwitz, of my staff, on these three points. I also inclose the report of Colonel Kozlay, commanding post of Folly Island, on the new batteries erected on John's Island, near Stono River. These latter have all been armed since Colonel Kozlay's report. From intercepted signal messages I have the following given as the armament of the city batteries: Battery Ramsey, one 12¾-inch Blakely gun, one 11-inch Dahlgren, three 10-inch columbiads, one 42-pounder rifle, one 11-inch Brooke; Battery Waring, two 10-inch columbiads; Calhoun Street Battery, one 8-inch rifle; Lawrence Street Battery, one 10-inch columbiad; Blakely Gun Battery, one 12¾-inch Blakely gun; Vanderhorst's Wharf Battery, one 42-pounder rifle, one 10-inch columbiad; Castle Pinckney, three 10-inch columbiads, one 8-inch Brooke rifle. Another message states that 1,100 Austrian rifles have been drawn for the Second South Carolina Artillery. Another message speaks of 500 Enfield rifles and 150 Springfield rifle muskets being drawn for the First South Carolina Artillery.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., January 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Savannah, Ga.:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I have just sent a letter to Admiral Porter, giving him the information you ask for in your letter to Admiral Dahlgren of the 7th instant. When you get into this State, where I think you will be joyfully received by the mass of the population, I hope to be able to assist in some way. My force in this district is some 9,000, and of these scarcely more than 6,000 effective. Everything that could be spared was sent to Virginia. I can worry the rebels on the railroad between Wilmington and Goldsborough, if you think that advisable. Do you wish that road destroyed? I have 1,000,000 rounds of small ammunition and a good supply of other. When you get near me I can furnish you supplies. Please suggest to me, if you have time to do so, what you would like to have me do and what preparations you would like to have me make here for you. If you wish the railroad put in order I must have iron and workmen, &c. If you are going to need supplies I must prepare for that, and if more cars or engines, or more river transportation, &c., is to be needed I would like to know it. I hope you will find time to write to me. We are all throwing up our hats for Sherman and his army, and the whole country is rubbing its hands over you.

Ever sincerely yours,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 12. } HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI, *In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 14, 1865.*

It being represented that the Confederate army and armed bands of robbers, acting professedly under the authority of the Confederate Government, are harassing the people of Georgia and endeavoring to intimidate them in the efforts they are making to secure to themselves provisions, clothing, security to life and property, and the restoration of law and good government in the State, it is hereby ordered and made public:

I. That the farmers of Georgia may bring into Savannah, Fernandina, or Jacksonville, Fla., marketing, such as beef, pork, mutton, vegetables of any kind, fish, &c., as well as cotton in small quantities, and sell the same in open market, except the cotton, which must be sold by or through the Treasury agents, and may invest the proceeds in family stores, such as bacon and flour in reasonable quantities, groceries, shoes, and clothing, and articles not contraband of war, and carry the same back to their families. No trade stores will be attempted in the interior, or stocks of goods sold for them, but families may club together for mutual assistance and protection in coming and going.

II. The people are encouraged to meet together in peaceful assemblage to discuss measures looking to their safety and good government and the restoration of State and National authority, and will be protected by the National army when so doing, and all peaceable inhabitants who satisfy the commanding officers that they are earnestly laboring to that end must not only be left undisturbed in property and person, but must be protected as far as possible, consistent with the military operations. If any farmer or peaceable inhabitant is molested by the enemy, viz, the Confederate army or guerrillas, because of his friendship for the National Government, the perpetrator, if caught, will be summarily punished or his family made to suffer for the outrage; but if the crime cannot be traced to the actual party then retaliation will be made on the adherents to the cause of the rebellion. Should a Union man be murdered then a rebel selected by lot will be shot, or if a Union family be persecuted on account of the cause a rebel family will be banished to a foreign land. In aggravated cases retaliation will be extended as high as five for one. All commanding officers will act promptly in such cases and report their action after the retaliation is done.

* * * * * * *

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[JANUARY 14, 1865.—For Howard to Sherman, reporting advance to Pocotaligo, &c., see Part I, p. 192.]

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 12. } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE, *Beaufort, S. C., January 14, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

VII. The following movement of the army is directed for to-morrow: Major-General Blair will intrench a division strongly confronting

Pocotaligo, and with the other two divisions make a detour to turn the enemy's left. The brigade of the Fifteenth Corps now near Garden's Corners will move to near Stony Creek and be ready to support the division in front of Pocotaligo. In case the enemy is gone in the morning General Blair will secure some point on the railroad and communicate with General Hatch on the Coosawhatchie. Rations and forage will be brought forward for the troops this side of Port Royal as fast as they can be procured at Beaufort and transported.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 11. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Pocotaligo, S. C., January 14, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. D. Leggett, commanding Third Division, will at once proceed to intrench the position he now occupies and to-morrow will attract the attention of the enemy and annoy him as much as possible.

At 7 a. m. to-morrow General G. A. Smith will move his command out on the road just in rear of the Third Division, running in a northeast direction.

Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will follow the Fourth Division. The intention of the movement is to strike the railroad north of Pocotaligo, and further directions will be given for the movement to-morrow.

Ten ordnance teams and ambulance train will accompany each division; the remainder of the train will be parked in rear of the Third Division.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 10. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
Port Royal Island, January 14, 1865.

I. This command will move across the river promptly at daylight (6.30 a. m.), moving in same order as before.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. D. Leggett:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 14, 1865.

Brig. Gen. E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. Armies, present:

GENERAL: I have the honor to request respectfully that the following-named officers may be brevetted for gallant conduct on the field of battle, viz: Col. A. S. Hartwell, Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers (colored), to be brevetted brigadier-general for gallant conduct at the engagement of Honey Hill, S. C., December 30, 1864. Capt. George E. Gouraud, aide-de-camp, to be brevetted major for gallantry in the

engagement of Honey Hill, S. C., December 30, 1864. Colonel Hartwell gallantly led his brigade against the enemy's works and fell pierced with three wounds, his horse being shot under him. Captain Gouraud was much exposed and very efficient during the engagement, and upon the fall of Colonel Hartwell rallied and reformed his regiment. Both are earnestly recommended for the above promotion as an act of justice to their merit and a reward for their gallant conduct.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 14, 1865.

Major STRONG:
(Of General Foster's staff.)

MAJOR: My bridge is laid and the forces are crossing, but the canvas is rotten. I want your bridge, boats and all, sent me by water as soon as possible by Broad River and Whale Branch to Port Royal Ferry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 14, 1865.

Brig. Gen. JOHN P. HATCH,
Commanding Coast Division:

GENERAL: The following dispatch has just been received from the major-general commanding, dated Savannah, Ga., January 13, 1865:

Send word to General Hatch at once that he will keep all his force with him and prepare to move on the offensive in co-operation with General Howard as soon as a forward movement is made. It is not the present purpose to withdraw General Hatch and his forces from their present position. If the regiment that was to go to Florida has not gone detain it where it is.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 13.

HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 15, 1865.

The Department of the South having been placed within the sphere of this command, and it being highly desirable that one uniform policy prevail touching commerce and intercourse with the inhabitants of the South, the following general rules and principles will be adhered to unless modified by law or the orders of the War Department.

I. Commerce with foreign nations or in an enlarged sense cannot be permitted or undertaken until the National authority is established to an extent that will give the necessary courts and offices to control and manage such matters. Trade will be confined to a limited barter and sale proportioned to the necessary wants of the army and of the inhabitants dependent on it for the necessaries of life, and even that trade must be kept subject to strict military control or surveillance.

II. Trade stores will be permitted at Beaufort, Hilton Head, Savannah, Fernandina, Saint Augustine, and Jacksonville, in all articles of clothing and food, groceries, ladies' and children's goods generally, and articles not contraband of war.

III. To trade is a privilege, and no person will be allowed to buy and sell for profit unless he be a citizen of the United States, and subscribe to any legal oath or obligation that is or may be prescribed by law, and at points threatened by an enemy the officer commanding may further exact as a condition that the trader shall himself engage to serve in some military capacity to aid in defense of the place.

IV. Persons desiring to trade will apply to the commanding officer of the post and obtain his written consent, specifying the kind, nature, and extent of the trade, and when he requires importations from Northern cities he will in like manner apply for his permit. The commanding officer of the post may appoint some good officer to supervise these matters, who will frequently inspect the stores, and when there is not sufficient competition will fix the prices of sale. These stores will in like manner be subject to the supervision of the commanding general of the Department of the South by himself or an inspector-general.

V. In order that purchases may be made with economy the commanding officer of each post will make reports of his action in regard to trade, with the names of traders, amounts of goods desired for sale, &c., to the commanding general of the department, who will in like manner make full report to the Secretary of the U. S. Treasury, to the end that he may instruct the collectors of ports from which shipments are expected as to the necessary permits and clearances. It being utterly impracticable that a general commanding military operations should give his personal attention to such matters, it is desirable that as much power as possible should be delegated to post commanders, and they should be held to the strictest account that no trade is permitted injurious to the military interests of the United States.

VI. Sales of cotton will be restricted absolutely to the U. S. Treasury agents, and no title in cotton or bill of sale will be respected until after the cotton is sold at New York. Country people having small lots of cotton are permitted to bring the same in to be exchanged for food and clothing for their families. The quartermaster will set aside a store or warehouse to which each wagon bearing cotton will, after entering the military lines, proceed direct, where an agent of the Treasury Department will receive and weigh the same and pay for it the price fixed in the eighth section of the act of Congress, approved July 2, 1864, viz:

> Three-fourths the value of cotton as quoted in the New York market; and the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby requested to make appointments of agents to carry out the provisions of said act at the posts of Hilton Head, Savannah, Fernandina, and Jacksonville.

VII. In order that the duties hereby imposed on commanding officers of posts may not be neglected or slighted by the changes incident to rank and changes of troops, the commanding general of the Department of the South will appoint a special officer to command at each of said posts, with a small garrison, not to be changed without his order; and when other troops, commanded by a senior are added or arrive the command of the post will not change, but the additional troops will be encamped near by and act according to special instructions.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 15, 1865—5.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: The enemy abandoned the strong works in our front during the night. General Blair's corps occupies a strong position across the railroad, covering all the approaches eastward to Pocotaligo.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

(Same to General Slocum.)

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 15, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

GENERAL: The enemy continued a heavy artillery fire last night until it was quite dark. This morning at daybreak we found he had abandoned the works in our front and gone. I was very much obliged, for the position was a very strong one to carry and thoroughly fortified. The main fort had twenty-four embrasures and the marsh was impassable. Again I had tried to avoid fighting on Sunday, but last night did not see how it could well be avoided. Three pieces of artillery were found newly buried at Garden's Corners. All information goes to show that the enemy has gone to Salkehatchie. General Blair is strongly posted on high ground across the railroad and covering all approaches to Pocotaligo. He has as many as eight days' rations and considerable forage with him and en route. I directed him to reconnoiter toward Salkehatchie and toward Robertsville, in order to communicate with Slocum, and also to open communication with General Foster's troops, and feel the way back along the Union Causeway. By combining different escorts of headquarters he will be able to do this without using infantry. Not much is left in the country in that vicinity. We have a few large stacks of rice and a good mill. The boats of General Foster's bridge have reached the Port Royal Ferry, but not the other material. As soon as communication is open along Union Causeway I will have our remaining animals at least sent that way. I inclose you some late rebel papers.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

P. S.—I neglected to state that the enemy destroyed three bridges and partially destroyed a fourth in front of General Blair yesterday, but he quickly repaired them by using abandoned buildings.

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

General SLOCUM:

From Howard. Push Ward's division up to Hardeeville and meet any of Howard's people coming from the direction of Coosawhatchie; also let another division of the Twentieth cross on to Ward's rear.

SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 15, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The movement on Pocotaligo has been completely successful. I have just returned from the railroad station near that place. I only used one brigade (Colonel Smith's) of your corps, and kept that in reserve. It is now at Garden's Corners. The road from here to Pocotaligo is quite good. I have directed General Blair to reconnoiter back toward Savannah via Hardeeville and the Union Causeway. As soon as you get this dispatch please order your mounted infantry and general officers' headquarters escorts, that they don't need, to push out and see if they cannot push through to Pocotaligo, sending word back to you as to the practicability of that route for transportation or animals. The steamers are slower in bringing animals than anything else. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will be ordered forward at the same time.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 15, 1865.

Capt. S. L. TAGGART,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: There is a good road, and I think two of them, from this point to the mouth of the Tullifinny River, on Broad River. The distance is twelve miles. If supplies can be brought up in steamers to that point my command can be supplied much easier than by Port Royal Ferry, besides leaving that road for the Fifteenth Army Corps. My command is in good position and can withstand any force in the State or out of it. I will send you a sketch of the position as soon as it can be made. I have sent a small force toward Salkehatchie to ascertain the position of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

P. S.—I forward report of the reconnaissance to Salkehatchie just received.

[Inclosure.]

MASON'S BRIDGE, *January 15, 1865.*

Major-General BLAIR:

SIR: I have the honor to report that I reached this bridge at 3 p. m. and found General Hatch here. The bridge is destroyed and cannot cross until repaired. The engineers say it will be completed by morning, when I will proceed as directed.

Very respectfully,

J. A. McQUEEN,
Lieutenant, Company K, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo Station, January 15, 1865.

Captain CADLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: By advice of my surgeon, and with the consent of Major-General Blair, I have temporarily turned over my command to General M. F. Force, hoping that a few days' entire rest may refit me for duty. I am feeling very poorly to-day.

Very respectfully,

M. D. LEGGETT,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIV., SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 15, 1865.

Capt. C. CADLE, Jr.,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Seventeenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the reconnaissance I sent out this p. m. found a good road leading to the landing on the Tullifinny—on the opposite side, however, from where the fleet lands supplies for General Foster's command. The landing is seven miles from this place; needs a wharf to enable supplies to be landed. The road is the first left hand one after crossing the Pocotaligo bridge on the Coosawhatchie road.

I am, captain, very truly yours,

M. F. FORCE,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 15, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding.

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 1. } HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 15, 1865.

Division commanders making all necessary preparations for a new campaign will hold their commands in readiness to march from Savannah on Wednesday next, the 18th instant. Ten days' rations of hard bread, coffee, sugar, and salt, and four days' rations of salt meat will be carried, each wagon being loaded with from 1,800 to 2,000 pounds. All surplus wagons must be loaded with forage. One wagon only will be allowed to division commissaries for scales, measures, paulins, broken packages, &c., and all wagons appropriated to the commissary department above this number will be counted as loaded with rations for the men. Regimental, brigade, and division headquarters wagons and ordnance and ambulance trains will haul at least three days' rations of forage for their animals; the batteries four days'. The ordnance trains will be loaded with the same complement of infantry and artillery

ammunition as they carried upon leaving Atlanta. The trains will be apportioned and loaded under the supervision of the corps and division quartermasters.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 15, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. G. FOSTER,
Hilton Head:

GENERAL: Your letters of the 8th and 9th instant are just received. The Secretary of War must have reached Savannah by the 9th or 10th, and I presume has decided all questions asked in your communications.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HILTON HEAD, *January 15, 1865.*

General SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

Howard, with the Seventeenth Army Corps, crossed at Port Royal night before last without opposition. He had a skirmish a few miles out from the ferry. He expected to encamp at Pocotaligo last night. No news from him this morning. The Secretary is here and thinks he will start for Morris Island and the North this evening. I will go as far as Morris Island. The Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Colored were sent to Thunderbolt before the order to remain at Pocotaligo reached General Hatch. Shall I send and bring them back or suffer it to remain at Thunderbolt for the present?

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 15, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. G. FOSTER,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: The enemy abandoned his strong works in our front during the night. General Blair's corps now occupies a strong position across the railroad and covering all approaches to Pocotaligo. He has been directed to communicate with your forces. The boats had arrived at Port Royal Ferry when I passed, but not the rest of the bridge.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

NEW YORK, *January 15, 1865.*

Major-General FOSTER,
Commanding Department of the South:

DEAR SIR: During General Gillmore's command of the department you now control I was instrumental in sending, through the influence of the President, some 500 of Berney's Greek-fire shells for the 200-pounder Parrotts. I do know that three of those shells were thrown from the Swamp Angel into Charleston on the first night of the bombardment. Those three shells caused Beauregard to squeal like a stuck pig. Those shells were confounded with a worthless shell known as the short shell, which I predicted a failure in advance. Berney's shells were known as the green-top shell down there, and, with proper fuses, I will guarantee seven out of ten. From some unaccountable reason the incendiary shell used, or attempted to be used on Charleston, with the exception of the three first thrown, have been failures, yet I do know that the Berney incendiary shell, when properly prepared and fitted with proper fuses, is certain to accomplish all that is claimed for it.

Having lately given a series of experiments to Generals Grant, Butler, Meade, and others, which were entirely successful; having with 100-pounder shells burned every house struck with a single shell, and knowing that you can burn Charleston whenever you please with these shells, and, having learned that a large number of the 200-pounders still remain with your command, I have taken the liberty of writing directly to you to say that if it be true that any number of those shells are on hand, and it be desired, I will come, or send Mr. Berney, examine the shell, where necessary refill them, insert proper fuses, and guarantee seven out of ten shall explode and set fire to any combustible matter in Charleston, provided your guns will throw them there. If the general will be kind enough to let his chief of ordnance ascertain how many of the 200 green-top shells remain, and, if agreeable, will say that an opportunity such as indicated will be given to Mr. Berney or myself, one or both, I will undertake to demonstrate the practicability of burning Charleston or any other city which can be reached by any gun yet in service. Nothing would suit the people so entirely just now as to hear that General Foster had burned that hot bed of rebeldom—Charleston. Nothing would so certainly immortalize General Foster as such a desired result so accomplished.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. S. HALSTED, JR.,
Willard's Hotel, Washington, D. C.

[Memoranda.]

Write. Answer that none of the shells are here. If he will send or bring some we will fire them on Charleston with pleasure.

J. G. FOSTER.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 16, 1865.

General U. S. GRANT:

DEAR GENERAL: I have written you less than I had designed; but I have had visits from many, including General Barnard and Mr. Stanton, who will tell you all matters of interest. General Barnard staid

over one steamer, at my request, to study the relation of the parts of this coast, and will explain things clearly. I don't want to assume the control of matters here further than to give uniformity of action, though it was well to place the Department of the South subject to my command. This (Monday) is the day for Howard to put his Right Wing at Pocotaligo and fortify. He was across Port Royal with the Seventeenth Corps and out some four miles when I last heard. The Fifteenth Corps is now passing from Thunderbolt to Port Royal. The Twentieth Corps is across the Union Causeway, and Davis and Kilpatrick will move up to Sister's Ferry, and I will get all my army in hand on a line from Sister's Ferry to Pocotaligo. I have not heard from you since Colonel Ewing went up, but suppose the route indicated will be the best. I now take it. Some, if not all, of Hood's army will be worked over this way, and Thomas should be pressed down to Selma. If Thomas would prefer to watch Tennessee, order him to send a small force from Chattanooga down toward Rome, and detach Schofield, with 35,000 men, including Wilson, to Selma, via Tuscaloosa, and to return via Talladega and Rome. That circuit would be easy to make, and would tear out the heart of Alabama and prevent the farmers planting corn, because all rails would be burned, horses and mules taken, and corn eaten up. I would risk that march with just enough wagons to carry the command across Sand Mountain. I think the farmers of Georgia are organizing against Jeff. Davis, but don't build any castles on that hope.

Truly, yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January 16, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point:

GENERAL: Since my letter of this morning I have official reports from General Howard, commanding Right Wing. He crossed from Beaufort Island on Saturday, the 14th, by Port Royal Ferry to the mainland with the Seventeenth Corps, General Blair, and marched for Pocotaligo. They encountered the enemy near Garden's Corners, but soon outflanked him, and followed, dislodging him from position to position, till he took refuge in a strong fort at Pocotaligo. This is described as a well-constructed, inclosed work, pierced for twenty-four guns, and the approaches covered by the peculiar salt marsh points that guard this coast. Night overtook the command there, and Sunday morning the enemy was gone. Howard expresses great satisfaction thereat, as it was Sunday, and it saved him an assault which might have cost him some valuable lives. As it was, he lost Lieutenant Chandler, of General Leggett's staff, killed, and Captain Kellogg, of General Giles A. Smith's staff, wounded. He writes that 8 or 10 will cover his loss. He reports three guns captured at Garden's Corners. We are therefore now in possession of good high ground on the railroad at Pocotaligo, with a good road back twenty-five miles to Beaufort. I will order Howard to forage toward Charleston, but proceed to get my army and trains across, and can start north the moment I can get my wagons loaded. The weather at sea has been so stormy that vessels are behind, and it has been touch and go to get daily food. I have ordered Slocum to push a division up to Hardeeville and Purys-

burg, and think I can use the Savannah River up to that point. We are hard at work corduroying the roads across the rice fields by the Union Causeway. The Secretary told me I would surely receive 4,000 men from Baltimore to garrison Savannah. They are not heard of here yet.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January [13–16], 1865.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: As our mail facilities form an important link in the chain of events now transpiring, it gives me pleasure to note the peculiar energy which characterizes the agents of the department under the charge of Col. A. H. Markland. Colonel Markland has managed this department in connection with my army to my entire satisfaction, and with a kindly interest that shows a devotion to our cause that takes him with the advance of our army, has won its respect and my confidence.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 14.

HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 16, 1865.

* * * * * * *

II. Surg. J. C. Morgan, Twenty-ninth Regiment Missouri Infantry Volunteers, is relieved from duty with his regiment and assigned to duty as health officer of the city of Savannah. It will be his duty to see to the prompt removal to the proper hospital of all contagious diseases, and also that the carcasses of dead animals and all offal or other matter either offensive or detrimental to health be removed with as little delay as possible. To facilitate the execution of these duties he will at once put himself in communication with the general commanding the post.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 15.

HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 16, 1865.

I. The islands from Charleston south, the abandoned rice-fields along the rivers for thirty miles back from the sea, and the country bordering the Saint John's River, Fla., are reserved and set apart for the settlement of the negroes now made free by the acts of war and the proclamation of the President of the United States.

II. At Beaufort, Hilton Head, Savannah, Fernandina, Saint Augustine, and Jacksonville the blacks may remain in their chosen or accustomed vocations; but on the islands, and in the settlements hereafter to be established, no white person whatever, unless military officers and soldiers detailed for duty, will be permitted to reside; and the sole and exclusive management of affairs will be left to the freed people themselves, subject only to the United States military authority and the acts of Congress. By the laws of war and orders of the President of the United States the negro is free, and must be dealt with as such. He cannot be subjected to conscription or forced military service, save by the written orders of the highest military authority of the Department, under such regulations as the President or Congress may prescribe; domestic servants, blacksmiths, carpenters, and other mechanics will be free to select their own work and residence, but the young and able-bodied negroes must be encouraged to enlist as soldiers in the service of the United States, to contribute their share toward maintaining their own freedom and securing their rights as citizens of the United States. Negroes so enlisted will be organized into companies, battalions, and regiments, under the orders of the United States military authorities, and will be paid, fed, and clothed according to law. The bounties paid on enlistment may, with the consent of the recruit, go to assist his family and settlement in procuring agricultural implements, seed, tools, boats, clothing, and other articles necessary for their livelihood.

III. Whenever three respectable negroes, heads of families, shall desire to settle on land, and shall have selected for that purpose an island, or a locality clearly defined within the limits above designated, the inspector of settlements and plantations will himself, or by such subordinate officer as he may appoint, give them a license to settle such island or district, and afford them such assistance as he can to enable them to establish a peaceable agricultural settlement. The three parties named will subdivide the land, under the supervision of the inspector, among themselves and such others as may choose to settle near them, so that each family shall have a plot of not more than forty acres of tillable ground, and when it borders on some water channel with not more than 800 feet water front, in the possession of which land the military authorities will afford them protection until such time as they can protect themselves or until Congress shall regulate their title. The quartermaster may, on the requisition of the inspector of settlements and plantations, place at the disposal of the inspector one or more of the captured steamers to ply between the settlements and one or more of the commercial points, heretofore named in orders, to afford the settlers the opportunity to supply their necessary wants and to sell the products of their land and labor.

IV. Whenever a negro has enlisted in the military service of the United States he may locate his family in any one of the settlements at pleasure and acquire a homestead and all other rights and privileges of a settler as though present in person. In like manner negroes may settle their families and engage on board the gun-boats, or in fishing, or in the navigation of the inland waters, without losing any claim to land or other advantages derived from this system. But no one, unless an actual settler as above defined, or unless absent on Government service, will be entitled to claim any right to land or property in any settlement by virtue of these orders.

V. In order to carry out this system of settlement a general officer will be detailed as inspector of settlements and plantations, whose

duty it shall be to visit the settlements, to regulate their police and general management, and who will furnish personally to each head of a family, subject to the approval of the President of the United States, a possessory title in writing, giving as near as possible the description of boundaries, and who shall adjust all claims or conflicts that may arise under the same, subject to the like approval, treating such titles altogether as possessory. The same general officer will also be charged with the enlistment and organization of the negro recruits and protecting their interests while absent from their settlements, and will be governed by the rules and regulations prescribed by the War Department for such purpose.

VI. Brig. Gen. R. Saxton is hereby appointed inspector of settlements and plantations and will at once enter on the performance of his duties. No change is intended or desired in the settlement now on Beaufort Island, nor will any rights to property heretofore acquired be affected thereby.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 16, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing, Beaufort:

GENERAL: I have your reports of Saturday and yesterday, and am glad you got the position of Pocotaligo so cheaply. It is of great value to us in the future, and I wish you to have it thoroughly strengthened, and all water channels to its south and east reconnoitered. Don't seem to feel up the peninsula, but rather toward the Salkehatchie. Go on and accumulate supplies and stores, and get ready as soon as possible to sally forth with your whole wing supplied as well as possible.

I have ordered Slocum to push one division to Hardeeville and Purysburg, and to open up communication with you. I will try and get Davis started by Wednesday, but cannot hear of the troops from Baltimore to relieve Geary here. I will not move from Pocotaligo till we get a good supply in our wagons, as that is the great point.

Truly, yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Copy by General Howard to General Blair.)

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 14.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 16, 1865.

* * * * * * *

II. Leave of absence for thirty days under provisions of Section II, act published in General Orders, No. 216, War Department, series 1864, is hereby granted Bvt. Brig. Gen. Green B. Raum, Second Brigade, Third Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, with permission to proceed North.

* * * * * * *

VI. The major-general commanding not desiring to displace any of his present division or brigade commanders, Brig. Gen. William Vandever, U. S. Volunteers, who has reported to these headquarters for assignment, will report to Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman, commanding Military Division of the Mississippi, for orders.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, January 16, 1865.

Captain TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: General Blair requests me to acknowledge the receipt of a communication from General Howard in reference to a base for supplies for this corps, and to say that he has already sent detachments under charge of Lieutenant McQueen and Captain Henley to open communication with the Left Wing. A report will be forwarded as soon as they return. The general has positive information that a good wharf can be built, with nine or ten feet of water at low tide. There is also a good landing at or near Jenkins' plantation, on the Tullifinny River, about five miles above its mouth, where boats can land and discharge during four hours each tide. General Hatch has also tendered the use of his wharf, situated near the mouth of the Tullifinny, where boats can and do land and discharge during high tide. The distance from this point to General Hatch's wharf is about ten miles, about eight miles to Mackay's Point, and about six miles to Jenkins' Landing. As the distance to Beaufort is about twenty-two miles, only one bridge over the Whale Branch, and the road liable to become impassable by heavy rains, and at the same time it being necessary for the use of the Fifteenth Army Corps, the general would most respectfully request permission to build a wharf or dock at Mackay's Point, and have the supplies for his command landed there. While this work is being built boats can land and discharge at the other wharf and landing on the Tullifinny.

I inclose a sketch of the position of the different wharves, &c.* I also inclose a letter which General Hatch requested the general to send to General Howard.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. HICKENLOOPER,
Lieut. Col. and Asst. Insp. Gen., Seventeenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 16, 1865.

Major-General BLAIR:

GENERAL: Your dispatches are just received, and I am pleased at the state of things there, but am anxious to open communication with Savannah. With reference to supplies, General Easton says that there is but four feet of water in the mouth of the Tullifinny River, and as the boats would be continually running on sand-bars I think for the

* Not found.

present we had better make the depot of supplies here, at least till the roads are badly cut up. If the wagons would not run always in the same ruts, but take different tracks in the road, they would not be so quickly cut up. Please have your brigade commanders order the wagon-masters accordingly.

Very respectfully, yours,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
No. 17. } *Savannah, Ga., January 16, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

II. The following officers assigned, by brevet rank, to duty by the President, will report for duty to Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis, commanding Fourteenth Army Corps: Bvt. Maj. Gen. Absalom Baird, U. S. Volunteers; Bvt. Brig. Gen. George P. Buell, U. S. Volunteers, colonel Fifty-eighth Indiana Volunteers; Bvt. Brig. Gen. H. C. Hobart, U. S. Volunteers, colonel Twenty-first Wisconsin Volunteers; Bvt. Brig. Gen. B. D. Fearing, U. S. Volunteers, colonel Ninety-second Ohio Volunteers.

* * * * * * *

By command of Maj. Gen. H. W. Slocum:

H. C. RODGERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 16, 1865.

Commanders of divisions and the chief of artillery of the corps will order an inspection of the wagon trains of their commands with the view of excluding from the wagons all unauthorized baggage. They will see that the trains of the headquarters of their commands are not in excess of allowance made by existing orders.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 16, 1865. (Received 1.40 p. m.)

Brigadier-General JACKSON,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move your division across the river to-morrow morning and occupy the ground now held by the Third Division. You will call in all details for fatigue duty except those at work corduroying the road across the islands and the regiments with General Easton. Your men should start with three days' rations and what forage you can get. The wagons at work on the road must continue on that duty till it is completed. In crossing the river by your troops and trains the work on the road should be hindered as little as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 16, 1865.

Brig. Gen. W. T. WARD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding the corps directs that you move your command to-day if it is in readiness, if not, at an early hour to-morrow morning, and occupy Hardeeville and Purysburg. Take with you all of your loaded wagons, leaving the empty ones to follow as soon as stores can be obtained to fill them. A guard of at least two regiments should be left for the trains left behind. Your commissary ought also to remain to forward the supplies. You will want with you two days' forage, which, with what you can get from the country, should be made to last four days. General Howard's troops are marching down the railroad and will make connection with you. You should take with you three days' rations. Lieutenant-Colonel Asmussen will accompany you. Application has been made to have your regiment now with General Easton relieved.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SIGNAL DEPARTMENT, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Hilton Head, January 16, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

Telegram received. Will hurry up the steamers. Did not go to Morris Island with the Secretary. General Howard telegraphed last night that General Blair's corps was on the railroad, and thus cut off Fort Pocotaligo from re-enforcements from toward Charleston. I immediately sent orders to General Hatch to advance and attack from his side, and in every way co-operate with General Howard, with whom he is in communication. I will send a boat for your mail to-night.

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 16, 1865.

Rear-Admiral JOHN A. DAHLGREN,
Commanding South Atlantic Blockading Squadron:

ADMIRAL: I have the honor to inclose a copy of a statement* of Steinborn Fritz, a deserter from the rebel iron-clad Palmetto State in Charleston Harbor. The latest information received from General Hatch states on the authority of deserters that three of the iron-clads in Charleston Harbor have disappeared, and one supposed to have been sunk in the Cooper River.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

* Not found.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 4. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, *Hilton Head, S. C., January 16, 1865.*

The State of North Carolina having been attached to this department, the undersigned hereby assumes command of the same. It will in future be designated the District of North Carolina, Department of the South.

The commanding officer of the District of North Carolina will make the usual returns and reports required by regulations to these headquarters.

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 16, 1865.

Brig. Gen. JOHN P. HATCH,
Commanding Coast Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to acknowledge the receipt of your two communications of the 15th instant, reporting the evacuation of the enemy from your front; also your recommendations in regard to the movement of the troops composing your division. The following disposition of your command will be made by you as soon as you have the order to leave your present locality for operations elsewhere: The Thirty-third U. S. Colored Troops to remain at Beaufort, the Twenty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops to be sent to Morris Island, the Thirty-second U. S. Colored Troops to be ordered to report to General Saxton for duty on Edisto Island. The detachment of the One hundred and second U. S. Colored Troops, now at Beaufort, will be ordered to report to you at once for duty in the field. Orders will be issued for the detachments of the other regiments to join their respective commands. Your whole force will be re-embarked at Beaufort when it moves.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 16, 1865.

Lieut. Col. CHARLES B. FOX,
Commanding Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that, in compliance with instructions from General Sherman, you will leave Thunderbolt Battery with your command, and relieve the garrisons at Forts Jackson and Bartow at once, showing these instructions to the commanding officer at each of the above-named forts.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

STEAMER S. R. SPAULDING, *January 16, 1865.*

Rear-Admiral D. D. PORTER, U. S. Navy,
Commanding, &c.:

SIR: Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman, commanding U. S. forces, now at Savannah, Ga., desires the inclosed important dispatches to be

delivered to you, with the request that you have them forwarded immediately to the general commanding our forces in North Carolina, and his reply forwarded by you to General Sherman at Savannah. The Secretary of War, now on board this ship, adds his request that you will cause the dispatches to be sent, and also facilitate, if in your power, the forwarding of the reply. Inclosed is an order placing the State of North Carolina under the orders of Major-General Sherman, with a view to future military operations. A portion of General Sherman's forces have moved from Savannah against the enemy at Pocotaligo, and yesterday occupied the railroad at that place. The residue of the command will move speedily, leaving a force to occupy Savannah.

I am, sir, &c.,

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

ON BOARD STEAMER S. R. SPAULDING,
At Sea, January 16, 1865.

Brig. Gen. I. N. PALMER, U. S. Volunteers, or
COMMANDING OFFICER U. S. FORCES IN NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C.:

SIR: The Secretary of War is just returning North from Savannah on board this ship. I inclose herewith his general orders* of January 12, annexing the State of North Carolina to the Department of the South, and placing that department under the orders of Major-General Sherman. I have also to communicate to you the following instructions from Major-General Sherman, to which you will please give immediate attention: Send at once by return to General Sherman at Savannah all data concerning the command in North Carolina; numbers and stations of troops, names of commanders, and how far out your line extends. General Sherman also directs that you now, at once, secure the crossing of the Neuse, near Kinston.

I am, sir, &c.,

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[JANUARY 17, 1865.—For Stanton to Lincoln and Stanton to Grant, referring to Sherman's operations in Georgia and South Carolina, &c., see Vol. XLVI, Part II, pp. 155, 157.]

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January 17, 1865.

Admiral J. A. DAHLGREN,
Commanding South Atlantic Squadron, off Charleston:

DEAR ADMIRAL: I have this moment received your note of the 16th instant, with the letter and roll of charts from Admiral Porter. I send you herewith a letter to Admiral Porter, which I beg you will send him at your earliest convenience, but it is not of enough importance to detach a ship. I regret exceedingly the loss of the monitor Patapsco,

* See p. 44.

especially that she carried down so many valuable lives. Admiral Porter thinks he and General Terry can take Fort Fisher, or at all events occupy the peninsula above it and cut it off from Wilmington. Of this we shall hear soon, as he proposed to renew the attack on the 13th or 14th, and in case of taking Fort Fisher he would send to Charleston all his fleet, save enough to blockade Wilmington and keep up communications for the troops on shore. Otherwise he could hold on there to engage the attention of the enemy about there, to keep them from me. You will have heard that we took Pocotaligo on the 15th, according to my plans, and we now have the Seventeenth Corps, General Blair, strongly intrenched on the railroad. I would by this time also have had my Left Wing at Sister's Ferry, but have been, and still am, delayed by the non-arrival of our stores necessary to fill our wagons. I will get all the army in motion. The first installment of General Grover's division, which is to garrison Savannah, has just arrived and all will be in to-morrow. I would prefer you should run no risk at all. When we are known to be in rear of Charleston, about Branchville and Orangeburg, it will be well to watch if the enemy lets go of Charleston, in which case Foster will occupy it, otherwise the feint should be about Bull's Bay. We will need no cover about Port Royal; nothing but the usual guard ships. I think you will concur with me that, in anticipation of the movement of my army to the rear of the coast, it will be unwise to subject your ships to the heavy artillery of the enemy or his sunken torpedoes. I will instruct Foster, when he knows I have got near Branchville, to make a landing of a small force at Bull's Bay, to threaten, and it may be occupy, the road from Mount Pleasant to Georgetown. This will make the enemy believe I design to turn down against Charleston and give me a good offing for Wilmington. I will write you again fully on the eve of starting in person.

Your friend,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January 17, 1865.

Admiral D. D. PORTER,
Commanding North Atlantic Squadron, off Wilmington:

DEAR ADMIRAL: I am this moment in receipt of your letter of January 12, with the roll of maps, for which I am much obliged. I hope you will succeed at Fisher, as it will set free much of your fleet for other purposes; but if Terry does not assault he should occupy the peninsula at the narrow neck represented on the map, about four miles north of Fisher, with a strong line looking to the rear, and a battery of 20-pounder Parrotts commanding the channel of Cape Fear River. I know that the enemy would not naturally keep in Fort Fisher to exceed 500 or 600 men, and they could be held there. Still, if he takes it, it settles that matter, and the majority of his troops could return to Grant or re-enforce New Berne and work out toward Kinston. I will send my railroad man, W. W. Wright, up to New Berne, and can send any number of cars and locomotives, so that we can use that road back to Kinston and Goldsborough. We have also a good deal of railroad iron. Pursuant to my plan, the Seventeenth Corps got Pocotaligo and railroad on the 15th, and I would now be in motion for Branchville and Orangeburg, only stores have been delayed by the storms of

the past month. But the possession of Pocotaligo and road back to Beaufort, and also from here forward to Hardeeville, gives me a clear start and I will be off as soon as I can get bread enough to load my wagons. The division of Grover, sent by Grant to hold Savannah, has begun to arrive, so I can take with me my entire army.

I have studied the maps well and like the appearance of New Berne and Goldsborough and would like New Berne held with all tenacity. If Lee sees the points he may try to checkmate me there, and if you have anything to do with it hold fast to New Berne with the tenacity of life. I explained its importance to the Secretary of War, who promised to run in there and attend to it. I am rejoiced that the current of events has carried Butler to Lowell, where he should have stayed and confined his bellicose operations to the factory girls. He always struck me as a mighty man of words but little in deeds of personal valor. We will be along soon and the braggart Carolinians will find in our Western boys a different kind of metal. See how easy we took McAllister and Pocotaligo, that have defied the East. The latter cost us less than ten lives. I will make a good ready, and then stand from under. I shall account it a happy day if I stand once more on your deck. The world shall not be grieved at little jealousies, for we feel a just pride in the pure courage and patriotism of each other. I will write you again before I again dive out of sight and hearing.

Very truly, your friend,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT MILITARY TELEGRAPH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 17, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Mil. Div. of the Mississippi, Savannah, Ga.:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following facts for your information and to request that measures be taken to remedy the evil referred to without delay, or it will be impossible for me to render the telegraph lines serviceable to the staff departments of the army. At the request of Major-General Howard a line of from fifteen to twenty miles in length was repaired and extended and communication opened with Rosedew. This line was cut down repeatedly during the few days that General Howard required service from it and the labor expended upon it thrown away. By order of the major-general commanding another line was in like manner repaired and extended to headquarters of the cavalry division, a distance of nine miles. This line also has been repeatedly cut down and rendered useless; on one occasion two miles being utterly destroyed, the soldiers using the poles for fuel. The engineer corps destroyed one mile and a half of the same line, evincing gross carelessness on the part of the officer having the business in charge. The chiefs of the quartermaster's and commissary departments have urgently requested that telegraphic communication be established with this point. With infinite labor a line was built between Savannah and Fort Pulaski, which, with our other connections, enabled us to transmit dispatches between General Howard's army and headquarters in ten or fifteen minutes. Within forty-eight hours this line has been twice cut down. The nature of the country renders it almost impossible to build these lines and equally difficult to repair them. I will have the line to Pulaski repaired as

speedily as possible, but, as the services of my constructing party are required elsewhere, other means of communication must be resorted to if the line is again destroyed.

I am, major, very respectfully, &c.,

JAMES R. GILMORE,
Capt., Asst. Quartermaster, and Supt. Mil. Tel., Dept. of the South.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 17, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I inclose you reports of reconnaissances made from Pocotaligo. If Slocum is at Robertsville, as proposed, will he not feel forward toward my troops or Foster's? You will notice Blair's requests regarding supplies. I have directed him to build a wharf, as he desired, but cannot well throw up supplies there till we get through transporting the Fifteenth Corps.

From some information I have received I am inclined to the belief that the enemy will draw off from Charleston. One road is pretty good from here to Pocotaligo, but likely to rut badly in places and break through the crust if it rains. I have sent you Vandever and Harrow. I do not wish to displace our young officers who have "borne the burden and heat of the day." I think they had better retire from the service, in order that these young men may have their places. Harrow is a brave man, but he left us. Sweeny has been cleared, but I don't want him or Veatch. They, too, might be mustered out, with a view to the interest of the service, and in order to promote efficient, true, and hard-working men.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 15.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 17, 1865.

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III. The major-general commanding, not desiring to displace any of his present division or brigade commanders, Brig. Gen. William Harrow, U. S. Volunteers, who has reported to these headquarters for assignment, will report to Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman, commanding Military Division of the Mississippi, at Savannah, Ga., for orders.

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By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Savannah, Ga., January 17, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say to you that the embarkation of your command will cease to-day. You

will please move the balance of your command by slow and easy marches to Pocotaligo, S. C., via the Union Causeway turnpike, crossing New River bridge, and taking the old Charleston road, passing through or near Grahamville and Coosawhatchie. You will, if practicable, move your command on Thursday, the 19th instant, the hour of starting to be designated by you, and will cause all the wagons of your command to be lightly loaded with rations and forage, not taking more than 1,000 pounds in each wagon. On your arrival at Pocotaligo you will take up a defensive position and report to the major-general commanding for further orders. The Engineer Regiment, with its transportation, and the cattle belonging to this army, in charge of the chief commissary of the Fifteenth Army Corps, will follow your command.

By command of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

WM. E. STRONG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 17. } HDQRS. FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Savannah, Ga., January 17, 1865.*

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III. All details from the Third and Fourth Divisions of this corps are hereby relieved, and will rejoin their commands preparatory to an early movement from this city.

By order of Maj. Gen. John A. Logan:

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 17, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. M. CORSE,
Commanding Fourth Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to request you to prepare your division to move at an early moment. You will take in your wagons as much forage and as many days' rations as you can obtain. but not to load them too heavily. The men will carry three days' rations in their haversacks. Orders have been issued relieving details from your division; they will rejoin their commands at once.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 17, 1865.

Capt. S. L. TAGGART,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: The enemy are reported to have abandoned their position at Salkehatchie bridge. I have sent a force there to ascertain. As soon as they return I will forward their report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 17, 1865.

Capt. S. L. TAGGART,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: Lieutenant McQueen has returned, and reports that he met Colonel Gage, with the Twenty-ninth Missouri and Seventh Illinois Mounted Infantry, at New River bridge, about ten miles from Savannah, and that the bridge was destroyed so that he could not cross. Colonel Gage reports that a portion of the Twentieth Corps were in camp about five miles this side of Savannah, and that they had orders to move at 8 o'clock this a. m., but had not moved when he left them. Two divisions of the Fifteenth Army Corps were ordered to move by the same route, but had not yet started. They had heard of the taking of Pocotaligo through General Howard's dispatch. The bridges on the road from Grahamville to New River bridge are all destroyed. Lieutenant McQueen reports that General Hatch's command are destroying the railroad.

I forward a note received from Colonel Gage.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. TWENTY-NINTH MISSOURI VOLUNTEERS MOUNTED,
New River Bridge.

Major-General BLAIR:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I met the bearer at the New River bridge. I have a command of all the detachments of mounted men from the Fifteenth Army Corps. This is the only bridge of any importance on the road. It has been burned, but I shall be able to cross by 2 p. m. January 17, 1865.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. S. GAGE.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 17, 1865.

Capt. S. L. TAGGART,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of my attempt to open communication with General Slocum via Robertsville:

Capt. William Henley, of my staff, started yesterday morning with about seventy-five mounted men on the Coosawhatchie road reaching a point about six miles beyond Gillisonville. He found there a strong force of artillery and cavalry and was obliged to return to Coosawhatchie, capturing, however, a lieutenant, a surgeon, and ten men of the enemy. He then went, via Grahamville and Bradham's, to within eight miles of Robertsville, where he found the enemy's pickets. He had captured a man of the Third South Carolina Cavalry at Bradham's, who reported that one division of Wheeler's cavalry and Kanapaux's battery of seven pieces were at Robertsville. The people along the road confirmed this statement. He was, therefore, obliged to return. Citizens on the road report our force at Purysville and Harrisonville, on the Savannah River. Wheeler's command left Graham-

ville on Sunday morning, moving toward Robertsville. Lieutenant McQueen passed through Grahamville about noon yesterday and his road was reported free from obstructions.

If you think best I will send a force of infantry adequate to open the road to Robertsville. The force I sent this p. m. to Salkehatchie have returned and report the enemy still there with seven pieces of artillery in sight from the road and they strengthening their works.

Respectfully,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 17, 1865.

[Lieut. Col. H. C. RODGERS:]

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that in compliance with previous instructions my command has been preparing for the coming campaign, with the following success: All the divisions are wanting in ammunition, which they will be able to procure probably by to-morrow evening. All the divisions are still deficient in clothing, but expecting it daily. My quartermaster reports but two days' forage in the corps, and is informed that the forage intended to fill up our trains cannot be gotten to-night; that it is on transports on the river and may be expected at any time. The corps cannot move to-morrow as expected, without great inconvenience arising from leaving these things behind. Please lay this report without delay before the general commanding the wing for his information and instructions.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JEF. C. DAVIS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
January 17, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. C. DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you unload sixty wagons and send them to report at General Williams' headquarters at 8 o'clock this evening. The wagons ordered from you this morning did not report. You can delay your movement until Thursday morning (the 19th), and in the meantime do what you can to complete your supplies. It is very important that these wagons report promptly this evening to aid in repairing the road across the river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. RODGERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FOURTEENTH CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 17, 1865.

Col. A. C. MCCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Headquarters Fourteenth Corps:

COLONEL: In reply to your circular, asking whether my division will be ready to move to-morrow morning, I have to state that every-

thing has been done that I or my officers can do, and that with the exception of certain very necessary supplies we are ready. I have on hand forage for to-morrow and the next day. More, it is said, will arrive during the night. My ammunition is short about 80,000 rounds or one-fourth the amount we can carry. This, we are told, is expected momentarily. I also lack several articles of clothing, particularly stockings and pants, but these are also on their way and may arrive at any moment.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. BAIRD,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 17, 1865.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor most respectfully to request that brevets may be given to the following-named officers of my command for gallant and distinguished services in the field, viz, Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, U. S. Volunteers, to be brevet major-general for long and continued services in this department, uniform bravery, and gallant conduct, particularly at the action of Honey Hill, on 30th of November, 1864, and for valuable and efficient services from that battle up to his occupation of the Charleston and Savannah Railroad, and the works at Coosawhatchie, Tullifinny, Dawson's Bluff, and Bee's Creek; Brig. Gen. Edward E. Potter, U. S. Volunteers, to be brevet major-general for long and efficient service in North Carolina; also for his bravery, gallant conduct, and valuable services rendered at the action of Honey Hill, and in all the operations of the Coast Division, under Brigadier-General Hatch, to the occupation of the Charleston and Savannah Railroad and the batteries above-named; Col. A. S. Hartwell, Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, to be brevet brigadier-general for distinguished and valuable service at the action of Honey Hill, where he received three severe wounds.

I earnestly recommend that the above-named officers may be brevetted to date from November 30, 1864, the date of the action at Honey Hill, S. C., as a mark of reward to these gallant officers and a compliment to the brave men they command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HILTON HEAD, *January 17, 1865.*

Major-General SHERMAN:

Fort Fisher was taken at 10 p. m. on the 15th by assault; 1,780 well prisoners and 72 guns. Have dispatches for you. I will start with them at once.

FOSTER,
General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 17, 1865.

Maj. Gen. O. O. HOWARD,
Comdg. Dept. and Army of the Tennessee, Beaufort, S. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose herewith, for your information, a condensed report made up from the statements of rebel deserters, refugees, and escaped Union officers of the enemy's defensive works, &c., on the Charleston and Savannah Railroad, from the Edisto River to Savannah.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

Report of rebel defensive works on the Charleston and Savannah Railroad from the Edisto to the marshes on the Savannah River.

Edisto.—At the crossing of the Edisto, no works known; bridge, 350 feet in length; no troops near the river above the bridge, and no manned batteries believed to be below it. November, 1864.

Ashepoo.—Bridge, 300 feet long; country open; earth-work at railroad station north of the river. On the right bank of the river, a short distance above the bridge, is a slight epaulement without guns. Between Ashepoo and Pocotaligo lives a man named Butler, who, in November, 1864, had captured more than seventy escaped Union officers by dogs.

Salkehatchie.—Bridge, 200 feet long; no works there or between there and Pocotaligo.

Combahee.—Battery at Combahee Ferry, behind a creek and between the creek and road, made to run earth-works into. The ferry is three miles from the railroad, and in September an infantry company was stationed there. Small battery with one iron gun on Tar Bluff; another battery, not large, on Field's Point, at the mouth of the Combahee; small work with one large iron gun at the near side of the ferry on Williman's (Williams'?) Island. Bull River navigable. The creek running by Kean's Neck (sometimes called Summer House Island) is not for steam-boats. Four miles from Combahee Ferry, on a creek running into Combahee River, are salt-works at which fifty men are employed.

Pocotaligo.—No troops at Pocotaligo, except at the station; two cavalry companies at New Station; five men at Pocotaligo Station in September, 1864; militia regiment under Major Sorwin at Pocotaligo Station; three companies South Carolina cavalry at Pocotaligo in September, 1864. The depot for troops is at Pocotaligo and all stores were issued thence in July, 1864. The station is a mile and a half from Pocotaligo. The railroad bridge is only ten yards long. An inclosed work at the old bridge with three large guns, the ditch about five feet deep; no force stationed at the battery; very heavy works. At Pocotaligo, to the right of the main-road bridge, are works with seven guns. The works extend from the bridge all the way down to the Union road. At Pocotaligo and Port Royal Ferry in July, 1864, were part of Fourth Georgia Cavalry (500), two companies Third South Carolina Cavalry (150), Bachman's and Stuart's batteries (250).

McPhersonville.—Not fortified; two batteries of light artillery there, but no infantry, in September, 1864.

From Pocotaligo to Port Royal Ferry.—The country is open with back water for rice plantations; it is easy to go through; but few troops on

the road. When you pass Garden's Corners to the left (going from the ferry to Pocotaligo) on the Union road there are obstructions and a field-work commanding the main road; and still farther to the left near Bridge Church is another work. On the Union road above Sheldon Church are more obstructions (abatis), but no works. Above where Stony Creek crosses the Pocotaligo road there is an earth-work. Stony Creek is not fordable below the road, but is above, where there are rice fields with water standing about knee deep. Seven miles from the ferry is a mud fort with two guns (apparently same captured by Captain Gouraud December 5, 1864); cannon broken and lying by road about a mile and a quarter from ferry. From the cannon on a line toward the creek in open woods, a negro says, there were torpedoes, kind unknown, in August, 1864.

Port Royal Ferry.—Picket of lieutenant and five men in September, 1864; picket relieved from Pocotaligo; slight earth-works, fallen to decay; about 100 yards from causeway, west of road, in the brush on heavy, hard ground, about thirty yards from marsh, nearly opposite where the ambulance wagon stops is a heavy mine, got at by a trap-door; it is close to the major's quarters. An extra guard is stationed ten or fifteen yards beyond it, evidently intended to watch it. Nothing of the kind was seen by the reconnaissance of December 5, 1864.

Coupon's Bluff.—Below Page's Point; a good landing, and no works on the road till you reach Stony Creek Church.

From Pocotaligo to Mackay's Bluff.—Breast-works at Heuston's place with places for light guns; also at the bridge at Causton's, and at the bridge near Frampton's. Both these creeks can be forded above the bridge, but not below.

From Pocotaligo to Tullifinny River.—No works either on the railroad or the dirt road, except works facing Mackay's Point. (See above.)

Tullifinny River.—Railroad bridge, 150 yards long; dirt-road (?) bridge, 75 to 100 yards long; no works at railroad bridge. On dirt road at Mason's Bridge, on Pocotaligo side of the creek, is a battery for field pieces. The existence of such battery is denied.

Peninsula between Tullifinny and Coosawhatchie Rivers.—Intrenchments along line of road alleged to exist do not exist. From lower landing to cross-roads, four miles, and from upper landing to cross-roads, three miles and three-quarters; from cross-road to railroad, one-quarter of a mile (this is wrong; it is at least half a mile, probably more); from cross-roads to either bridge on the dirt road, three-quarters of a mile. No works on road leading up the peninsula; country mostly open, with some belts of woods till reaching cross-roads, thence thick wood with some openings, but no beaten road to railroad; rivers fringed by woods; sixteen men from Kanapaux's company on picket at Gregory's.

Coosawhatchie River.—Railroad bridge on trestles fifty feet (?) long; fifty yards long, no trestle-work; in three sections, 200, 150, and 100 yards long, respectively. Dirt road runs along railroad; bridge is the same (wrong); two planks run along middle of railroad bridge; dirt road bridge, 75 or 100 yards long. On December 6 regiment of Georgia Reserves (300 or 400) near bridge; artillery said to be there. Country between railroad and dirt road open, with woods in a bend of river on north side, houses on south side. On south side of Coosawhatchie are heavy works for six guns, with rifle-pits; works not closed (?). The railroad runs through the batteries; one large and one small battery on either side of the railroad; they look south and down the river.

Dawson's Landing.—Good landing; open, hard ground; no woods or marsh; two bridges of about fifteen feet each not far from landing. You can go round the bridges. The bottom is hard. Battery with two guns, one a 32-pounder, near the house.

From Coosawhatchie to Grahamville.—No batteries on railroad.

From Boyd's Neck to Coosawhatchie and Grahamville.—From landing to cross-roads, two and a quarter miles; on Coosawhatchie road, from cross-road to Newhall Church, about one mile and a half; two small earth-works across the road, one on either side of the Newhall Church; from Newhall Church to the swamp, Bee Creek, a mile and a half. Two hundred yards from swamp, Bee Creek, toward the cross-roads, is a battery covering also the Grahamville and Coosawhatchie road. On the 5th of December there were in this battery two 6-pounders and one 12-pounder. There is a cross-road from the Boyd's Neck to the Grahamville road before reaching this battery. The road leading from the cross-roads to Grahamville is disused and partly overgrown. From battery at fork of the roads to Grahamville is five miles. On Coosawhatchie and Grahamville road, two miles from Grahamville, is a stout little battery. From cross-roads to the church where the road turns to Grahamville is one mile (rather more). From church to Honey Hill is three miles. At Honey Hill is battery with no guns permanently in it; infantry intrenchments in woods on either side of battery; battery 500 yards from sharp turn of the road in densely wooded country (Captain Gouraud, aide-de-camp); 200 yards (Colonel Gurney, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York); battery on thirty feet rise of ground (Brig. Gen. E. E. Potter, U. S. Volunteers, Colonel Gurney); from battery at Honey Hill to Grahamville two miles; no battery between Honey Hill and Grahamville.

Grahamville.—In September no work at Grahamville; in July eight companies of cavalry and battery of artillery; in September Captains Peeples' and Howard's companies of cavalry and Lieutenant Johnson's section of rifled brass guns, the same which were used at Chimney Point.

From Grahamville to Savannah River.—No batteries between Grahamville and Ferebeeville. On the road leading from Ferebeeville to the Coosawhatchie and Bluffton road are two works, one on each side of the road, about three miles from Ferebeeville. At New River is a good railroad bridge 150 yards long. At Hardeeville in August, 1864, was a battery of artillery. At Bluffton in September, 1864, was Captain Kirkland's cavalry company and some artillery.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 5. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, *Hilton Head, S. C., January 17, 1865.*

A military tax of one per cent will be levied on all goods brought into this department, except the District of North Carolina, for the purpose of trade, on and after this date. The value of such goods will be determined by the invoices passed through the custom-house at Hilton Head. The fund accruing from this tax shall be used for the purpose of providing steam and other fire engines, repairing wharves, roads, public buildings, and other necessary civil expenses for the several cities and towns within the limits of this department. Lieut. Col. James H. Strong, First North Carolina Union Volunteers, is hereby detailed to attend to the collection and disbursement of this fund, under the direction of the major-general commanding. Lieut. Col. S.

L. Woodford, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers, will act for Lieutenant-Colonel Strong until the arrival of that officer from North Carolina.

By command of Maj. Gen. J. G. Foster:

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 6. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, *Hilton Head, S. C., January 17, 1865.*

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II. Capt. James R. Gilmore, assistant quartermaster, having reported to these headquarters in accordance with instructions from the War Department, is hereby announced as superintendent of military telegraphs in this department, and will be respected accordingly.

By command of Maj. Gen. J. G. Foster:

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 35. } HDQRS. COAST DIV., DEPT. OF THE SOUTH, *Deveaux's Neck, S. C., January 17, 1865.*

The Thirty-second U. S. Colored Troops are hereby relieved from duty with this division, and will proceed as soon as transportation can be furnished to Beaufort, S. C., and there report to Brevet Major-General Saxton for duty.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 17, 1865.

General SCAMMON,
Commanding, &c., Florida:

GENERAL: Now that Fort Fisher is captured and General Sherman moving, I think it a good time to get together all of your available men and advance into the country on a sort of Union march, as far as you judge safe and prudent or desirable. Select your point of attack and route. Stimulate the Union sentiment in the manner of General Sherman at Savannah. The news is glorious.

Truly, yours,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., January 17, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Savannah, Ga.:

GENERAL: I have just received a letter from Brig. Gen. E. D. Townsend, assistant adjutant-general, written on the 16th instant, from on board the steamer S. R. Spaulding, and inclosing to me the

order annexing the District of North Carolina to the Department of the South, and directing me to furnish you certain information concerning the command in North Carolina.

In a communication to Rear-Admiral Porter, and in a private letter written to you on the 13th instant, both of which you have doubtless ere this received, I gave you in general terms the information called for in the letter of General Townsend. I shall, however, inclose herewith reports from my own headquarters, together with those in detail from the sub-districts and stations under my command up to the 10th instant. I believe they explain themselves. Since that date no material changes have taken place. I shall also inclose a report of the ordnance and ordnance stores on hand in the arsenal here, together with a statement of the armament of the various works in this command, since the date of which no particular changes have taken place. I will also state that we keep constantly on hand at least ninety days' rations for all the troops in the district.

For fear that you may not have received the communication already referred to as having been sent you by Admiral Porter, I will state:

1. *The railroad.*—This is in tolerable running order from Morehead City to Batchelder's Creek, which is our extreme outpost on the railroad toward Kinston, and with little trouble I can place it in order as far as Core Creek, ten miles farther. From Core Creek to Kinston, a distance of about eighteen miles, the road has been in a great measure destroyed, but, as the grade is still preserved, it could be easily relaid. I have, however, no iron here to do this. There are now on the road four engines, two passenger cars, about ten each of box-cars and crates, and twenty platform-cars in order, and twenty which can be repaired.

2. *Water transportation.*—This consists of eight small steamers, fit only for the rivers and sounds, and two tugs. None of these are in very good order, and barely sufficient to transact business about the sounds.

3. *Outposts.*—These extend in a line toward Kinston, from the Trent to the Neuse River, a distance of about twelve miles; all the points of this line being about eight miles from New Berne.

The number of troops at the different stations, as shown by the returns inclosed, are barely sufficient to hold them. All the troops that could possibly be spared from this district were sent to Virginia early in the spring of 1864. I have, however, been able from time to time to send off various expeditions into the interior, which I flatter myself had the effect to hold no inconsiderable force of the enemy in this State, and away from other scenes of active operations.

4. *Fortifications.*—The different fortifications and field-works are in good condition, well armed and supplied, but weakly garrisoned.

In General Townsend's letter he informs me that you direct that the crossing of the Neuse at Kinston be at once secured. With regard to this, I would state that the Neuse River can be forded at one or more points a few miles above and below Kinston at the ordinary stage of the river. To secure the railroad crossing of the Neuse River at Kinston it will be necessary to capture and hold securely that place. Two of my scouts have this morning returned from near Kinston, and I am satisfied from the information I have obtained from them that there is only a small force, not to exceed two or three regiments, with from twelve to sixteen pieces of light artillery, in and about Kinston. But the bridge on the south and east side of the Neuse is defended by field-works with some heavy guns. Now, while I think it possible, with the force which I can collect, to capture Kinston, it is very doubtful whether

it could be held, and I was just on the point of making a visit to Lieutenant-General Grant for the purpose of obtaining a small additional force, say four regiments of infantry, for the purpose of capturing and holding that town until I could put the railroad in order from that place to this, as I have calculated that you would certainly very soon send a force through North Carolina, when it will be all important for you to have your communication with the coast complete.

Now, general, I take it for granted that you will approve of my sending direct to General Grant to ask for this additional force, and to beg of him to send here as soon as possible the necessary material and men to finish the road from here to Kinston; consequently I shall do so.

In the meantime, however, I shall organize as quietly as possible as strong a force as I can, for the purpose of capturing Kinston, and if you think the attempt had better be made whether we can hold it or not, it shall be done.

I do not know whether the rebels can spare any troops to re-enforce Kinston at this time, but in all former expeditions to that place we have found that they could quickly pour down from Goldsborough a force far superior in numbers to any we could bring against them.

I have no means of ascertaining what is now in Goldsborough, but it is my impression that all the force they could possibly spare has been sent toward Wilmington. As our army and fleet will in all probability capture Wilmington in a few days, if they have not already done so, it will have the effect to liberate a large number of their troops that can readily move up the railroad toward Kinston, and not only drive out any small force I might have there, but also menace New Berne itself. I only mention this matter as something to consider in my calculations. I hope that some regular means of communication with you will be established without delay. Will you please recollect that I have no boats that I can send, and I am entirely dependent upon the Navy for means of communication.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January 18, 1865.

HON. SIMEON DRAPER,
Special Agent of the Treasury Department, Savannah, Ga.:

SIR: I am directed by Major-General Sherman to acknowledge your letter of the 17th instant, inclosing a communication from the mayor of the city with reference to the rice captured in this city. General Sherman desires me to say that the subject of your letter will be at once referred to General Beckwith, his chief commissary, who has charge of this whole matter. He thinks it probable, however, that it will be found necessary to retain all the rice in the hands of the army, in order to supply the wants of the soldiers and other persons dependent on us for subsistence, and therefore he prefers that no part of it should be taken possession of by the Treasury Department.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. HITCHCOCK,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 17.

HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 18, 1865.

I. Brig. Gen. William Harrow, U. S. Volunteers, reporting to the general commanding, by order of Major-General Howard, commanding Department and Army of the Tennessee, will report in person to the Adjutant-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C., for assignment. The quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

II. Brig. Gen. William Vandever, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby transferred from the Department of the Tennessee to the Department of the Cumberland, and will report in person to Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis for assignment to duty.

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By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 18.

HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 18, 1865.

I. Maj. Gen. H. W. Slocum, commanding Left Wing, will to-morrow, January 19, turn over to Maj. Gen. J. G. Foster, commanding Department of the South, the command and charge of the city of Savannah, Ga.

II. Major-General Foster will thereon relieve the guards, patrols, and fatigue parties belonging to General Geary's command and assign a commander for the post and city of Savannah, to be governed by existing orders and instructions from these headquarters.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 18, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of 16th instant relative to movements, &c. I had already directed a scouting party to reconnoiter toward Gillisonville. General Blair reports that the party found the enemy (artillery and cavalry) about six miles beyond Gillisonville. They were obliged to return to Coosawhatchie, capturing, however, a surgeon, lieutenant, and ten men of the enemy. The officer in command then struck off via Grahamville toward Robertsville. When within eight miles of that point they ran upon the enemy's picket. They learned from a prisoner captured from the Third South Carolina Cavalry that one division of Wheeler's cavalry, with seven pieces of artillery, was at Robertsville. Citizens on the road confirm this statement. General Blair further reports that a party sent last evening (17th) to Salkehatchie found the enemy still

there, with seven pieces of artillery in sight from the road, and strengthening their works. I have directed General Blair to keep up his reconnaissances toward Salkehatchie.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 18, 1865.

General HOWARD:

DEAR GENERAL: Your note of January 17, with inclosures, is received. It is best that all the Fifteenth Corps not yet off should march, and that you get your whole command in the neighborhood of Pocotaligo and Coosawhatchie and make as many wharves as possible, that you may accumulate stores in your wagons. Slocum has two divisions at Hardeeville and Purysburg, and to-day a gun-boat and two transports move up to that point, and it will be five days before Slocum can have Sister's Ferry and Robertsville. The division of Cuvier Grover is now arriving and will occupy Savannah. This will relieve Geary's division. Davis will start to-morrow for Sister's Ferry on the west bank of Savannah, with Kilpatrick's cavalry. I now have official notice that General Terry carried Fort Fisher by assault, capturing 72 guns and 1,780 prisoners. This closes up Cape Fear River and helps us. I want them also to strengthen New Berne, and work out the railroad toward Goldsborough. Get your command so as to move north as soon as possible, and get all the bread and forage accumulated you can. As soon as possible we will cast off, and then for another cruise that will, in my judgment, do more to bring matters to a crisis than the last. Choose the best points you can find to land stores for Pocotaligo. Don't cross the Salkehatchie, but hold all the ground up to it, as though we intended to break across. The next movement I want the enemy to feel is from the left flank. Purysburg is reported as a fine point, with deep river and a good bluff.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
January 18, 1865. (Via Hilton Head.)

General SHERMAN:

Lieutenant McQueen, of my escort, has just returned from a reconnaissance. He communicated with a regiment of General Logan's mounted infantry at New River bridge yesterday a. m. The small bridges are destroyed; the road otherwise good. He brings from General Blair fifteen prisoners, including two commissioned officers. Do you wish the railroad destroyed?

HOWARD,
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
January 18, 1865. (Via Hilton Head.)

General SHERMAN:

General Blair finds the enemy's camp at Robertsville. Was not Slocum to occupy that place on the 15th?

O. O. HOWARD,
General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January 18, 1865. (Via Hilton Head.)

General HOWARD:

Slocum is not yet up at Robertsville but is at Hardeeville. It will be four days before he gets to Robertsville.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. DEPT. AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 18, 1865.

The major-general commanding with great pleasure publishes to the command the following telegram:

HILTON HEAD, *January 17, 1865.*

General MEIGS:

The steamer Russia has just arrived from Wilmington with dispatches which will be forwarded immediately. Fort Fisher was captured last Sunday evening by General Terry. Our loss about 500 men; 1 major-general, 2,000 prisoners, and 75 guns captured.

C. W. THOMAS.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 16.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 18, 1865.

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III. So much of Special Field Orders, No. 11, of date January 13, 1865, from these headquarters, as relieves Col. M. C. Garber as chief quartermaster, Department of the Tennessee, being inconsistent with orders from the War Department, is hereby revoked and made void.

IV. The necessities of the service require that the negroes employed in the engineer, commissary, and quartermaster's departments of this army should not be molested by recruiting parties for colored organizations. Recruiting parties are, therefore, expressly prohibited from recruiting any such employé in this army. If taken in violation of these orders he will be reclaimed, and the person recruiting him arrested and dealt with accordingly. To prevent mistakes officers employing negroes will furnish them with certificates showing by whom and how employed.

V. The Seventieth Regiment Ohio Infantry Volunteers will for the present remain in town for the purpose of furnishing details for guard

and fatigue duty, relieving the Thirty-first Iowa and Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry therefrom, which regiments, on being relieved, will report to their respective brigade commanders. The commanding officers Seventieth Ohio will at once ascertain from Captain Bogert, provost-marshal of the district, the detail required for provost duty and furnish the same, holding the balance of his command subject to detail from these headquarters, or Captain Woodward, acting assistant quartermaster, for fatigue duty.

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By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
Thunderbolt, Ga., January 18, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

In obedience to instructions embarkation of my division has been stopped, excepting my headquarters. The supply train and De Gress' battery, with the division pioneer corps and two regiments for guard, is all of the division left to go by land. This, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Black, One hundred and eleventh Illinois, is already on its way. I have directed Colonel Black to report at your headquarters, and also if possible to pass the causeway to-night.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 13. } *Savannah, Ga., January 18, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

X. This command will move out from its present camp at 8.30 a. m. to-morrow (the 19th instant) in the following order on the road leading into the city, viz:

1. First Brigade Infantry, Brigadier-General Rice commanding, with Battery H, First Missouri Light Artillery, in the center of his command or following the first two regiments.

2. Second Brigade Infantry, Colonel Adams commanding.

3. All trains of the division as follows: First, ordnance train followed by ambulance train; second, brigade trains in order of their respective brigades; third, division supply trains, well closed up.

4. Third Brigade Infantry, Colonel Hurlbut commanding. Colonel Hurlbut will keep out a sufficient rear guard, and will see that no straggling is permitted, arresting all men straying from their commands without proper authority.

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By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

LOUIS H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 18, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR, Jr.,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Your dispatches of last night respecting reconnaissances have just been received. I think from General Sherman's letter that General Slocum has not pushed any force to Robertsville yet, and probably the Fourteenth Corps will start for that place from Savannah to-day. Your reconnaissances toward Salkehatchie are useful, and had better be kept up with a view to keeping the enemy in that vicinity. It would be well to make him destroy his bridges, pontoons, &c., if possible. Please send me word as to the state of your rations and forage frequently.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

P. S.—It is best not to push an infantry reconnaissance toward Robertsville at present.

O. O. H.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 18, 1865.

Col. H. C. RODGERS,
Chief of Staff, Left Wing:

COLONEL: My quartermaster reports great doubt as to his being able to procure the forage required to fill his trains by to-morrow morning. The forage is down the river on transports, and tug-boats have gone to tow them up, but when they will be up he is unable to report. To-morrow night our animals are out again.

I am, very respectfully,

JEF. C. DAVIS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 18, 1865.

Brevet Major-General GEARY,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: As soon as the troops of your division now on post duty are relieved you will rejoin the corps at Purysburg, or wherever they may be, marching by the same route taken by the other divisions. The headquarters of the corps will be moved to Purysburg to-morrow morning.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., 20TH ARMY CORPS,
Purysburg, S. C., January 18, 1865.

Capt. JOHN SPEED,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Division:

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report for the information of the general commanding:

At an early hour this morning I started out two scouting parties, each attended by a staff officer, to explore the country, examine woods, bridges, communications, &c., in our front, and have the honor to submit the following information, which they report:

One of these parties, under charge of Lieutenant Brown, from my headquarters, moved out upon a road running nearly east from Purysburg and crossing the Charleston and Savannah Railroad. At the point of crossing he left this road, moving nearly directly north through the swamp, there being no road near that point, striking the Grahamville road about three or three miles and a half from Purysburg; moving out upon that road toward Grahamville about two miles, and to within ten miles of Grahamville and two of Great Swamp bridge, about five miles from Purysburg, on the Grahamville road, he found a low, swampy piece of road, considerably obstructed by fallen timber; besides clearing out this timber, the road, for perhaps a quarter of a mile, will have to be corduroyed to make it passable for trains. Besides this, there are no serious obstructions in the road, except an occasional fallen tree or small bridge torn away, except within half a mile of Purysburg, where the road is impassable in its present condition, being flooded with about three feet of water and intersected by an uncovered ditch. There was a family living at the point on the Grahamville road where Lieutenant Brown stopped, but none between that point and Purysburg. At this house Lieutenant Brown was told that a party of five rebels had passed there about two hours before, which would have been about 11 a. m. They said they belonged to Wheeler's cavalry. The country through which he passed is a low pine swamp; there are no plantations and no forage.

The other party, with Captain Easton, started upon the Augusta road, but, on account of the water covering it, he was obliged to leave all of his party not mounted, and went forward to Rushing's, about three miles from Purysburg. The entire length of this road is covered with water, and Captain Easton reports it at present impassable for trains. I propose to send a party out as far as Great Swamp bridge to-morrow. No steam-boat has yet come up the river as far as this place. The water in the river is still rising.

I am, captain, your obedient servant,

DANL. DUSTIN,
Colonel, Commanding Second Brigade.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 18, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. G. FOSTER,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: I understand that General Hatch is destroying the railroad. I had not done so because I thought we might want to use it. Had you given orders to that effect?

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 18, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. R. SAXTON,
Commanding District of Beaufort:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that the detachment of the One hundred and second U. S. Colored Troops, now at Beaufort, be directed to report at once to the headquarters of their regiment, now serving with the Coast Division under Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch. The necessary pickets for your district will be taken from the regiments and detachments in your command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. COAST DIV., DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
No. 36. } *Deveaux's Neck, S. C., January 18, 1865.*

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VII. Lieut. Col. William Ames is hereby relieved from duty as chief of artillery, Coast Division, Department of the South, and ordered to report to Maj. Gen. J. G. Foster, headquarters Department of the South, Hilton Head, S. C.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January 19, 1865.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: When you left Savannah a few days ago you forgot the map which General Geary had prepared for you, showing the route by which his division entered the city of Savannah, being the first troops to occupy that city. I now send it to you. I avail myself of the opportunity also to inclose you copies of all my official orders touching trade and intercourse with the people of Georgia, as well as for the establishment of the negro settlements. Delegations of the people of Georgia continue to come in and I am satisfied that, with a little judicious handling and by a little respect being paid to their prejudices we can create a schism in Jeff. Davis' dominions. All that I have conversed with realize the truth that slavery as an institution is defunct, and the only question that remains is, what disposition shall be made of the negroes themselves. I confess myself unable to offer a complete solution of this question, and prefer to leave it to the slower operations of time. We have given an initiative and can afford to await the working of the experiment. As to trade matters, I also think that it is to our interest to keep the people somewhat dependent upon the articles of commerce to which they have been hitherto accustomed.

General Grover is now here and will, I think, be able to manage this matter judiciously, and may gradually relax and invite cotton to come in in larger quantities. But at first we should manifest no undue anxiety on that score, for the rebels would at once make use of it as a

power against us. We should assume a tone of perfect contempt for cotton and everything else in comparison with the great object of the war—the restoration of the Union with all its rights and power. If the rebels burn cotton as a war measure, they simply play into our hands by taking away the only product of value they now have to exchange in foreign ports for war ships and munitions. By such a course, also, they alienate the feelings of the large class of small farmers that look to their little parcels of cotton to exchange for food and clothing for their families. I hope the Government will not manifest too much anxiety to obtain cotton in large quantities, and especially that the President will not indorse the contracts for the purchase of large quantities of cotton. Several contracts, involving from 6,000 to 10,000 bales, indorsed by Mr. Lincoln, have been shown me, but were not in such a form as to amount to an order for me to facilitate their execution. As to Treasury trade agents and agents to take charge of confiscated and abandoned property, whose salaries depend upon their fees, I can only say, that as a general rule they are mischievous and disturbing elements to a military government. And it is almost impossible for us to study the law and regulations so as to understand fully their powers and duties. I rather think the Quartermaster's Department of the Army could better fulfill all their duties and accomplish all that is aimed at by the law. Yet on this subject I will leave General Foster and General Grover to do the best they can.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January 19, 1865.

Hon. W. P. FESSENDEN,
Secretary of the Treasury, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: I have the honor herewith to inclose you copies of my Special Field Orders, Nos. 12 and 13,* the only ones I have issued touching matters of trade in this part of the country. I beg to invite your attention to them. I desire to pay every possible respect to the regulations of your Department and to carry out the policy of the Government to the furthest extent; but I know that we can derive but little revenue from the South, because no one will buy confiscated lands, and if we strip the inhabitants of all personal property they at once fall back upon us with claims of humanity which cannot be disregarded. I think that both General Grant and myself are as severe to secessionists as men could be, but each of us has been forced to feed the inhabitants of the conquered country after they have fallen helpless in our power. Without any clearly-defined rule, our practice has been harsh enough as long as resistance lasted; but the moment resistance ceased we could not see people round our camps perish of hunger. Immense quantities of provisions were issued by the commissary department round about Vicksburg and in East Tennessee; but I have forbidden my commissary to issue provisions to the people direct, but have set aside captured rice to be converted, under the direction of my commissary, into food for the inhabitants.

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* See pp. 50, 52.

In like manner I propose to invite the people to bring into Savannah for exchange such things as cotton, cattle, sheep, hogs, &c., which had not fallen into our hands before Savannah surrendered. I think, also, that cotton may be brought into Savannah, Fernandina, and Jacksonville in some considerable quantities; but it is very important that we keep away the sharks and rascals that hang round an army like birds of prey, and, therefore, I shall insist that in no event shall private citizens be allowed to purchase cotton anywhere in this neighborhood. It is impossible for you in Washington to know the rascalities they perpetrate to get hold of cotton cheap, utterly regardless of honesty or the military interests of our country. As to shipments to Savannah and elsewhere of innocent goods, I am perfectly willing to leave this to the discretion of the collectors of Northern ports, with the simple military check which post commanders can readily apply under my orders. When it is well understood that every trader in our lines engages to do military service, we will be rid of the worst class of characters. Also, so far as I am concerned, I have no objection to the collector in New York or elsewhere clearing for Port Royal any cargo of goods not contraband, when post commanders can regulate the amounts to be brought to other points indicated in my orders. I expect, in a day or two, to take my departure hence, after which General Foster will have supreme control.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HILTON HEAD, *January 19, 1865—11.30 a. m.*

Major-General SHERMAN:

The following dispatch has just been received from the senior naval officer here:

Wilmington is in our possession. Will send the news in detail as soon as I can get it from the gun-boat that has just arrived.

ANDERSON,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

[Indorsement.]

SLOCUM:

Order a salute of thirty-four guns.

SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 19, 1865.

Major ANDERSON,
Aide-de-Camp, Hilton Head:

In reporting us in possession of Wilmington did you refer to the news brought by the gun-boat Monticello? My dispatches by her merely refer to the taking of Fort Fisher.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.]

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 19. } HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI, *In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 19, 1865.*

I. Maj. Gen. J. G. Foster, commanding Department of the South, will occupy in force the city of Savannah and river defenses and maintain a good, strong picket in connection with the gun-boats at or near Purysburg. He will also establish an intrenched camp at or near Pocotaligo, covering Port Royal Ferry and the road back to Broad River.

II. Major-General Howard, commanding Right Wing, Army in the Field, will group his army in front of Coosawhatchie and Pocotaligo, prepared to move inland with his wagons containing five days' forage and provisions and ammunition to the full capacity of his wagons in about the same proportion as when the army left Atlanta. He will continue to draw supplies from the head of Broad River up to the last moment before departure.

III. Major-General Slocum, commanding Left Wing, Army in the Field, will in like manner conduct his wing to convenient camps in the neighborhood of Robertsville, extending toward Coosawhatchie, loading his wagons in the manner prescribed for the Right Wing and drawing his supplies up to the last moment from Purysburg and Sister's Ferry on the Savannah River.

IV. Brevet Major-General Kilpatrick will move his cavalry in concert with the Left Wing, cross the Savannah River at Sister's Ferry and picket the roads in front of the Left Wing and open communication with Coosawhatchie, drawing his supplies also from the depot at Sister's Ferry.

V. Headquarters of the army will be established first at Coosawhatchie, to which point army commanders will report all matters of interest and the earliest moment possible that they will be ready to move inland.

The Right Wing will establish a depot for sick and property at Hilton Head; the Left Wing and cavalry corps the same at Savannah, and each corps will leave behind all unnecessary servants and noncombatants, all tents save one for headquarters of brigade and upwards, flies to shelter from the weather, and tents necessary for hospital purposes; also all chests for office papers and other baggage not necessary for use in battle, with orders for their office papers and necessary baggage to follow them by water.

VI. The chief quartermaster and commissary of the Army in the Field will use all possible exertion to push forward supplies to the points named in this order, and will be prepared to follow the movements of the army by water, with the provisions, forage, and stores necessary for a resupply.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Savannah, January 19, 1865. (Via Hilton Head.)

Major-General HOWARD:

Dispatch received. Break up railroad at leisure and either send away the iron or disable it absolutely. General Grover arrived yesterday and to-day I install him in command. Accumulate food and forage

at Pocotaligo and establish a depot at Hilton Head for your suite and the baggage and officers to be left behind. It will be some days before Jeff. Davis gets up to Robertsville or Logan gets to Pocotaligo, but I will push matters as fast as possible.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 17.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 19, 1865.

* * * * * * *

VII. To facilitate the supplying of this command with quartermaster's and commissary stores, the following depots will be established under the direction of the chief quartermaster and the chief commissary of subsistence.

1. For the Seventeenth Corps at Mackay's Point and the landing at Tullifinny.

2. For the First and Second Divisions, Fifteenth Army Corps, at Beaufort, S. C.; for the Third and Fourth Divisions, Fifteenth Army Corps, at General Hatch's wharf.

3. Colonel Conklin, chief quartermaster, will accumulate supplies at the points above named, making Beaufort, however, the principal depot. Lieutenant-Colonel Remick, chief commissary of subsistence, will supply the command with at least thirty days' rations of small stores and all the hard bread and other stores which the transportation of the army will admit of. He will also accumulate at the points above mentioned, especially at Beaufort, all the stores possible.

4. Whenever supplies can be accumulated more rapidly by any change in the points herein indicated the chief quartermaster will act accordingly, and notify the command to be affected by the change, the object being to secure to the army the largest possible amount of supplies.

VIII. So much of Special Field Orders, No. 207, extract 5, series 1864, and No. 3, extract 1, current series, as relieves Capt. Fred. F. Whitehead, assistant adjutant-general, U. S. Volunteers, from further duty in this army, is hereby revoked. Captain Whitehead will report to Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, commanding Fifteenth Army Corps, for assignment to duty.

IX. Lieut. Col. R. R. Townes, assistant adjutant-general, Fifteenth Army Corps, having returned to duty, Maj. Maxwell Woodhull, assistant adjutant-general, U. S. Volunteers, is relieved from further duty in the Fifteenth Army Corps and will forthwith report in person to the major-general commanding for assignment.

X. Major-General Blair, commanding Seventeenth Army Corps, will break up the railroad from Pocotaligo to the Salkehatchie, destroying it absolutely, sending away the iron or rendering it worthless to the road.

XI. 1. The sick and wounded of this army will, under the direction of the medical director, be taken to Beaufort, S. C., and there provided for.

2. All unnecessary baggage and articles not absolutely required in the present campaign will be taken to the depot at Beaufort, S. C., and there stored in charge of proper officers.

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XV. Capt. C. B. Reese, chief engineer, will proceed to Hilton Head, S. C., to procure material for the pontoon train. The quartermaster's department will furnish without delay the necessary transportation for such material as Captain Reese may procure.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 19, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR, Jr.,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Major-General Howard directs me to say that upon reflection he does not deem it advisable to destroy the rails upon the road as required in the order to-day, provided you can procure cars with which to take them down to Pocotaligo and there pile them up for future use. Should you be unable, however, to get the cars, you will please go on and destroy the road as indicated in the order.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. T. CLARK,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 19, 1865.

Capt. S. L. TAGGART,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: Colonel Gage, Twenty-ninth Missouri Mounted Infantry, reached here with his command this morning. He found no enemy on the road, and heard that a part of the Twentieth Corps were at Hardeeville.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 19, 1865.

Capt. S. L. TAGGART,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I need my pioneers at this point very much for repairing roads, building works, &c. They can be much better cared for and worked to better advantage than where they now are. Besides, I hear that recruiting agents from the States are tampering with them at every opportunity and persuading them to desert. I desire to have the organization near enough to me to be able to make an example of any of these gentlemen I might chance to catch enticing my men away.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 19, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. A. MOWER,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding instructs me to say to you that General Force, commanding Third Division, has been directed to place two regiments in the position occupied by the brigade of your command on his left and to relieve your pickets as soon as you move out to-morrow morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 19, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. A. MOWER,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say to you that he has directed two regiments from the Fourth Division to move out after you to-morrow and take position to cover the roads as you desire. Captain Henley, of the general's staff, will accompany them and post them as you may direct. General Blair has examined the two deserters brought in by Colonel Gage, but considers their knowledge of the position of the enemy very indefinite. He directs me to say that if any large body of the enemy oppose your movements you will use your own discretion in regard to attacking them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 19, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. SMITH,
Commanding Fourth Division:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to direct you to extend your picket-line on your left until it connects with the right of the Third Division line. This will be done at daylight to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
No. 5. } *Savannah, Ga., January 19, 1865.*

Capt. Robert P. Dechert, Twenty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, is hereby announced on the staff of the major-general commanding as acting assistant adjutant-general. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Maj. Gen. H. W. Slocum:

H. C. RODGERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Savannah, Ga., January 19, 1865.

The following movements are ordered and will take place at the earliest moment practicable: The Fourteenth Corps, Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis commanding, will move via Springfield, cross the river at or near Sister's Ferry, and concentrate at that point. The Twentieth Corps, Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams commanding, will cross the river at Savannah and concentrate at Purysburg. The corps will be prepared to move from the above points with five days' forage and provisions, and ammunition to the full capacity of the wagons, in about the same proportion as when the army left Atlanta. To accomplish this, each corps commander will leave at Savannah a competent officer of the quartermaster's and commissary departments to forward the supplies by river to the above points of concentration, and they will see that supplies are promptly forwarded in sufficient quantities to meet the wants of the command while there, and at the same time enable them to start with a full supply of both rations and forage. All surplus baggage, servants, and non-combatants, and all tents, save one for headquarters of brigades and superior commands, will be left behind, with orders for the necessary baggage, office papers, and furniture to follow by water.

By command of Maj. Gen. H. W. Slocum:

H. C. RODGERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., FIRST DIV., FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 19, 1865.

I. In pursuance with Special Orders, No. 10, extract, paragraph I, dated headquarters First Division, Fourteenth Army Corps, January 17, 1865, I hereby assume command of the Second Brigade.

GEO. P. BUELL,
Brevet Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 6. HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 14TH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January [19], 1865.

This division will move promptly at 7 a. m., January 20, 1865, in the following order of march: First Brigade, battery, division headquarters wagons, Second Brigade, Third Brigade, ambulances, ordnance and general supply train, rear guard; regimental and brigade headquarters wagons and pack animals in rear of their respective brigades in the order of march. Brigades will alternate daily (when marching) from right to left. The brigade marching in rear will be responsible for the safety of the train. From two to three regiments must march on the flanks of the train and not only protect it, but assist wagons over bad roads. Brigade quartermasters will see that their trains are always well closed up while on the march. By 11 a. m. each day, when marching, a staff officer from each brigade, a sergeant from the battery, and a lieutenant from the general supply train will report at the head of the column to Captain Wiseman, assistant adjutant-general, as a camping party. Brigade commanders will see that the pioneer parties in their commands are properly organized in charge of a subaltern or good, efficient sergeant. The party will be provided with

tools sufficient to repair bad roads or bridges and march on the right of their respective brigades. No foraging parties will be sent out till ordered from division or corps headquarters.

By order of Brig. Gen. James D. Morgan:

T. WISEMAN,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Cheves' House, S. C., January 19, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: The rain of to-day has made the roads so bad that I respectfully request that Geary's division and the headquarters supply trains of this corps may be permitted to march with General Davis' column. All of the roads on this side of the river, including the causeway, are almost impassable, and if the rain continues will be entirely so. The most of the trains of the Fifteenth Corps are still behind here in the road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Gartsway's Plantation, January 19, 1865.

Capt. E. K. BUTTRICK,
First Division:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that I moved the division forward yesterday to a point four miles from Hardeeville and seven miles from Purysburg. On last evening I ordered the brigade commanders to issue to their regiments three days' rations from this morning and directed that all the wagons thus emptied be sent back to Screven's Ferry for additional supplies. Having learned that the road was bad in the vicinity of the ferry, I ordered a detail of 150 men from the Fifth Connecticut Volunteers to repair it. I have sent to this detail the intrenching tools necessary for doing the work and have directed that Captain Livezey, commissary of subsistence of division, furnish the detail with rations. Upon consultation with Major Francis this morning I have concluded to move the division forward to Purysburg in order to be out of the way of the troops coming up in the rear.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. S. ROBINSON,
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 1.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 19, 1865.

This command will be in readiness to move by to-morrow morning. The hour will be designated as soon as it is ascertained that the road is clear of other troops.

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By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary:

W. T. FORBES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., 20TH ARMY CORPS,
Purysburg, S. C., January 19, 1865.

Captain SPEED,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Div., Twentieth Army Corps:

I have the honor to submit the following report for the information of the general commanding:

Early this morning a party of eighteen mounted men under charge of Captains Easton and Kellam, of my staff, started out to examine the Grahamville road; they returned this evening and furnished the following information: Meeting with no resistance they moved out as far as Grahamville, fifteen or sixteen miles from this place. There are no troops stationed there, though Colonel Bennett with a detachment from General Hatch's command was there temporarily and returned to General Hatch's headquarters at Dubois Neck, eight miles from Grahamville, while my scouting party was there. As appeared by my report of last evening, there is a low place a quarter of a mile in length, about five miles from this place, which will need to be corduroyed before the trains can pass. There are also two or three small bridges torn away still farther on, but which the pioneer corps can easily replace. About a mile this side of Ferebeeville, where the railroad crosses the Grahamville road, there is nearly a mile of road entirely impassable for trains in its present condition, and will require much thorough work to make serviceable. The steamer General Lee, with 100,000 rations for the corps, convoyed by gun-boat Pontiac, arrived this evening.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
DANL. DUSTIN,
Colonel, Commanding Second Brigade.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January 19, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. G. FOSTER,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: At my suggestion your command has been re-enforced by the troops serving in North Carolina and a division under command of Major-General Grover. I have also turned over to you the city of Savannah and forts dependent, and beg now to indicate in general terms the course which I propose to pursue, and your share of the undertaking. I propose to march, as soon as my wagons are loaded with forage and provisions, to the railroad leading from Augusta to Charleston, striking it to the west of Branchville, breaking up that road effectually. I will then move in compact order and occupy that space of country lying in the triangle formed by Kinston, Columbia, and Camden. There I propose to devote some attention to Columbia and the railroads in that neighborhood. If I find sufficient forage and subsistence for my army and meet with no reverse, I may move with rapidity to Florence, S. C., in hopes to rescue some 10,000 prisoners confined there. At all events, breaking up the road there, I will move direct for Smithland [Smithville], at the mouth of Cape Fear River, or to New Berne, N. C., according to the condition of my army at the time. When you hear of our being in motion about Coosawhatchie, toward Barnwell, I want a diversion created at Bull's Bay, against the Mount Pleasant and Georgetown road, about the Twenty-four Mile Post, to

create the impression that my purpose is to swing down against Charleston by the peninsula between the Ashley and Cooper. I think 1,000 men, with the co-operation of the navy, will be sufficient to accomplish that end. At the same time, the command at Morris Island should feel the forces on James Island, either to detect the diminution of the enemy's forces there, or to compel the enemy to keep as many troops there as possible.

I regard any attempt to enter Charleston Harbor by its direct channel or to carry it by storm or James Island as too hazardous to warrant the attempt. Therefore, any demonstrations in that quarter should be merely diversions, or to take advantage of anything they may neglect by reason of my appearance in their rear. After I have passed the Santee similar diversions should be made about Georgetown, and if the opportunity presents itself the fort there might be carried and dismantled; and I would like to have a good lookout kept by the navy for any boat or message I might send down the Santee or Pedee with a cipher dispatch. I have already furnished Admiral Dahlgren with the key, which is the same used by our telegraphic operators, a copy of which you had better procure at once from Washington through the War Department. In whatever you may do to aid me along the coast by diversions, I must leave you in a great measure to be guided by such information as reaches you from sources controlled by the enemy, of which you must be duly suspicious. But bearing in mind the foregoing, and knowing the strength and temper of my army, you can arrive at a pretty fair conclusion. I take it for granted that Fort Fisher and Macon, on the North Carolina coast, will be held secure; and it would be well that you [give] to each commanding officer from time to time such instructions as will make them co-operate with the general movement to the extent of their power. I attach great importance to the point at New Berne, and think you had better send to that point an inspector-general.

Notify the commanding officer of the importance of the position, and if need be re-enforce him. Notify him further that the railroad from Morehead City to New Berne must be looked to with great care. I propose to send to New Berne an officer in whom I have great confidence, Col. W. W. Wright, to examine the railroad, to ascertain the quantity of rolling-stock, and to convey there by the time I can arrive increased railroad stock and iron, with the necessary operatives to extend the road to Kinston and Goldsborough. But, as a matter of course, these preliminary preparations should be made so as to attract as little attention as possible. In this connection I would caution you and beg you to caution others against the mischievous newspaper men, who would sacrifice the whole army for a little personal notoriety. If any of them are about and likely to divulge so important a secret don't risk them, but imprison them till the time is past. At this moment we have learned the capture of Wilmington, which may modify matters somewhat, but the general principles above indicated will be still applicable and sufficient for your guidance. I would like to have you confer frequently with Admirals Dahlgren and Porter, apprise them of all movements, and call upon them for any assistance in the way of gun-boats, &c.

I am, with respect, your obedient servant,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND
No. 3. } ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 20, 1865.

Col. James Wilson, Thirteenth Regiment Iowa Infantry Volunteers, is announced as provost-marshal-general of this department and army. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 20, 1865.

Capt. SAMUEL L. TAGGART,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: The dikes along the Union Causeway turnpike have been broken during the late storm, and the road is several feet under water and totally impassable for wagons or troops. The movement will therefore be delayed until other arrangements for the transportation of this column can be made. General Logan is now absent from the city, seeking some other route. Unless the road indicated in your order for the movement of the Third and Fourth Divisions of this corps can be made passable for wagons, or some other route to Pocotaligo be discovered, the rest of the corps, with its transportation, will have to be shipped by sea to Beaufort.

General Logan has put himself in communication with General Sherman, and is now acting in pursuance of instructions received from him.

These headquarters will remain in Savannah for several days, until arrangements are completed for the movement of the Third and Fourth Divisions.

Major Houghtaling, who carries this dispatch, will be able to give the general commanding all additional information he may desire.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—I will try and keep the general posted as to our movements.

M. W.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 8. } *Beaufort, S. C., January 20, 1865.*

Commanding officers are directed to make all necessary preparations for an immediate campaign. The division will remain at or near its present position till the army moves, which will not be for several days. The same allowance of transportation as on the last campaign, viz, 1 wagon per regiment, 2 per brigade, and 3 per division, will probably be given. No negro women or children will be permitted to leave this point with the troops. Commanders will see that on leaving here each of their enlisted men carry one shelter-tent. While lying at this point, the weather permitting, each regiment will be exercised in the drill of battalion from 9.20 to 11 a. m. each day, and in evolutions of the line from 2.30 to 4 p. m. each day.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. B. Hazen:

G. LOFLAND,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 20, 1865.

Maj. Gen. O. O. HOWARD,
Commanding Department and Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: I have addressed an official note to Captain Taggart requesting that my negro pioneers, under Captain Davis and Lieutenant Dixon, be relieved from duty at Beaufort and ordered to join this command. I have fatigue duty enough to occupy them here in making roads, wharves, &c., in which I am now compelled to employ my troops. But I wish to say candidly to you that I have other very strong motives to desire to get these men out of the hands of the recruiting agents of the different States, who are tampering with the men and officers, offering them bribes to enlist for particular States. The result, if this should succeed, would be to deprive me and my corps of a good body of pioneers and encumber the Government with another regiment of idle negroes to lay around in barracks. It would also be credited to the quota of some Northern State, and we should lose a regiment of white soldiers whose place it would take. It is not necessary that General Littlefield or anybody else should muster them into the service and give credit to this or that State. The men can continue to perform the services for which they were recruited until authority comes from Washington to muster them into service without losing by the operation 1,000 good white soldiers and without any bounty or pay except that which will properly come to them on the contract under which they have already engaged to serve. A large number have already been inveigled and seduced away by promises and bounties held out to them, and I desire to relieve myself and officers of all further contact with those people.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 20, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: General Mower has moved out this morning with the intention of crossing the Salkehatchie River, about three miles above the bridge, and coming down behind the enemy if possible.

The major-general commanding desires you to send a regiment out on the road to the bridge at once, with instructions not to expose themselves too much to the enemy's fire, but to make a demonstration to attract their attention. Send your mounted infantry with the regiment, and let them bring back reports of any movements of the enemy or anything of importance that the commanding officer may learn from time to time. Let the regiment remain out during the day or until something definite is heard from General Mower.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 20, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that you may withdraw the regiment sent to Salkehatchie bridge this morning, General Mower having found it impossible to cross the river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 20, 1865.

Col. WAGER SWAYNE,
Forty-third Ohio Volunteers:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs me to say to you, in forwarding the inclosed order for the destruction of the railroad, that he wishes it done in the most perfect manner, every tie burned and every rail warped and bent. It is five miles to the river, but I hardly suppose you can quite reach the river on account of the enemy. You will continue your work from day to day until finished.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FOURTH DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 20, 1865.

Captain WARE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have just returned from the front with my command. Lieutenant-Colonel Hibbets reports that his regiment was attacked by about 300 cavalry, Colonel Colcock, Third South Carolina. Three rebels are known to be killed and probably more. The Thirty-second Ohio Infantry lost 1 lieutenant captured, and 1 man slightly wounded. Major-General Mower is still out, but will return to-night. He could not effect a crossing of the river on account of the rain raising the stream. The First Division met no enemy. The ambulances and ammunition returned with me.

I am, captain, your obedient servant,

B. F. POTTS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Savannah, Ga., January 20, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that you had better arrest the movement of your corps for the present until the storm subsides. He will send you further orders should he desire you to resume the march.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
On the Causeway, Three Miles from Screven's Ferry,
January 20, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing, Army of Georgia:

GENERAL: The whole country on this side of the river is entirely submerged by the freshet in the river. I attempted to get back to my headquarters trains, but found it impossible. The water has broken away the dikes and washed away the corduroy. It is utterly impossible for the trains now on the island to come through this way. The causeway is not as yet flooded, but from this point to the river is worn out, and impassable even for empty wagons. I shall put on men and pull through the wagons between here and the ferry (thirty-eight wagons), but the supplies now at the ferry I shall be obliged to leave there to be taken from there by boat. The water is rising rapidly, and the negroes here say that the causeway also will be flooded. I shall go on at once to Purysburg and make headquarters there.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 21, 1865.*
(Received 29th.)

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

Your letters brought by General Barnard were received at City Point and read with interest. Not having them with me, however, I cannot say that in this I will be able to satisfy you on all points of recommendation. As I arrived here at 1 p. m. and must leave at 6 p. m., having in the meantime spent over three hours with the Secretary and General Halleck, I must be brief. Before your last request to have Thomas make a campaign into the heart of Alabama, I had ordered Schofield to Annapolis, Md., with his corps. The advance, 6,000, will reach seaboard by the 23d, the remainder following as rapidly as railroad transportation can be procured from Cincinnati. The corps numbers over 21,000 men. I was induced to do this because I did not believe Thomas could possibly be got off before spring. His pursuit of Hood indicated a sluggishness that satisfied me that he would never do to conduct one of your campaigns. The command of the advance of the pursuit was left to the subordinates, whilst Thomas followed far behind. When Hood had crossed the Tennessee, and those in pursuit had reached it, Thomas had not much more than half crossed the State, from whence he returned to Nashville to take steamer for Eastport. He is possessed of excellent judgment, great coolness, and honesty, but he is not good on a pursuit. He also reported his troops fagged, and that it was necessary to equip up.

This report and a determination to give the enemy no rest determined me to use his surplus troops elsewhere. Thomas is still left with sufficient force, surplus, to go to Selma under an energetic leader. He has been telegraphed to to know whether he could go, and, if so, by which of the several routes he would select. No reply is yet received. Canby has been ordered to act offensively from the sea coast to the interior toward Montgomery and Selma. Thomas' forces will move from the

north at an early day, or some of his troops will be sent to Canby. Without further re-enforcement Canby will have a moving column of 20,000 men. Fort Fisher, you are aware, has been captured. We have a force there of 8,000 effective. At New Berne about half that number. It is rumored through deserters that Wilmington also has fallen. I am inclined to believe the rumor, because on the 17th we knew the enemy were blowing up their works about Fort Caswell, and that on the 18th Terry moved on Wilmington. If Wilmington is captured Schofield will go there. If not, he will be sent to New Berne. In either event all the surplus force at the two points will move to the interior toward Goldsborough in co-operation with your movement. From either point railroad communication can be run out, there being here abundance of rolling-stock suited to the gauge of those roads.

There have been about 16,000 men sent from Lee's army south. Of these you will have against you, if Wilmington is not held by the enemy, about 14,000, casualties at Fort Fisher having overtaken about 2,000. All these troops are subject to your orders as you come in communication with them. They will be so instructed. From about Richmond I will watch Lee closely, and if he detaches much more or attempts to evacuate, will pitch in. In the meantime should you be brought to a halt anywhere, I can send two corps of 30,000 effective men to your support from the troops about Richmond.

To résumé: Canby is ordered to operate to the interior from the gulf. A. J. Smith may go from the north, but I think it doubtful. A force of 28,000 or 30,000 men will co-operate with you from New Berne or Wilmington, or both. You can call for re-enforcements. This will be handed to you by Captain Hudson of my staff, who will return with any message you may have for me. If there is anything I can do for you in the way of having supplies on shipboard at any point on the sea coast ready for you let me know it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January 21, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: In fulfillment of my projet* General Howard moved the Seventeenth Corps, General Blair, from Thunderbolt to Beaufort, S. C., and on the 14th by a rapid movement secured the Port Royal Ferry and moved against Pocotaligo, which he gained on the 15th, the day appointed. By that course he secured the use of the ground in South Carolina up to the Salkehatchie (Saltkatcher), and General Slocum was ordered in like manner to get his wing up about Robertsville by the way of the Savannah River and the Union Causeway. The transfer of men, animals, and wagons by steamer is a very slow process, and on the 19th General Slocum had only two divisions of the Twentieth at Purysburg and Hardeeville with open communications with Howard. John E. Smith crossed by the Union Causeway, on which Slocum had put ten days' hard work, but the hard rains had raised the Savannah River so that the whole country was under water, and the corduroy road on the Union Causeway was carried away, cutting off one

* See Sherman to Grant, January 2, p. 7.

brigade of John E. Smith, one division of the Fifteenth Corps (Corse's), and all of the Fourteenth Corps, General Davis. All were ordered to move up the west bank of the Savannah to cross at Sister's Ferry, but the rains have so flooded the country that we have been brought to a standstill; but I will persevere and get the army as soon as possible up to the line from Sister's Ferry to Pocotaligo, where we will have terra firma to work on. Our supplies have come daily, that is, we have never had four days' forage ahead, but I will depend on enough coming to get me out to the neighborhood of Barnwell, where we will find some.

General Grover's division now occupies Savannah, which I had refortified, and I have turned over everything to General Foster, so that nothing now hinders me but water. I rather think the heavy rains in January will give us good weather in February and March. You cannot do much in Virginia till April or May, and when I am at Goldsborough and move against Raleigh, Lee will be forced to divide his command or give up Richmond.

I am rejoiced that Terry took Fisher, because it silences Butler, who was to you a dangerous man. His address* to his troops on being relieved was a direct, mean, and malicious attack on you, and I amired the patience and skill by which you relieved yourself and the country of him. If you want some new and fresh men, able to handle large armies, I will offer you Charles R. Woods, Hazen, and Mower, all good and capable officers for an army of any size. Of course, I prefer to have them myself, but would give them up if you can do better by them.

As soon as possible, if I were in your place, I would break up the Department of the James, make the Richmond army one; then when I get to Goldsborough you will have a force to watch Lee, and I can be directed to gradually close in, cutting all communications. In the meantime Thomas' army should not be reduced too much, but he should hold Chattanooga, Decatur, and Eastport, collect supplies, and in all February and March move on Tuscaloosa, Selma, Montgomery, and back to Rome, Ga., when he could be met from Chattanooga.

I take it for granted that Beauregard will bring, as fast as he can, such part of Hood's army as can be moved over to Augusta to hit me in flank as I swing round Charleston. To cover the withdrawal Forrest will be left in Mississippi and West Tennessee, to divert attention by threatening the boats on the Mississippi and Tennessee Rivers. This should be disregarded and Thomas should break through the shell, expose the trick, and prevent the planting of corn this spring in Middle Alabama. The people of Georgia, like those of Mississippi, are worn out with care, but they are so afraid of their own leaders that they fear to organize for positive resistance. Their motives of "honor" and "fair play" are, that by abandoning the cause now they would be construed as "mean" for leaving their commands in the scrape. I have met the overtures of the people frankly, and given them the best advice I knew how.

I inclose copies of orders issued for the guidance of General Foster and other officers on this coast.† These orders are made on conference with the Secretary of War.

I have been told that Congress meditates a bill to make another lieutenant-general for me. I have written to John Sherman to stop it, if it is designed for me. It would be mischievous, for there are enough

* See Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 70.

† See Special Field Orders, Nos. 13, 15, 18 and 19, pp. 52, 60, 81, 90.

rascals who would try to sow differences between us, whereas you and I now are in perfect understanding. I would rather have you in command than anybody else, for you are fair, honest, and have at heart the same purpose that should animate all. I should emphatically decline any commission calculated to bring us into rivalry, and I ask you to advise all your friends in Congress to this effect, especially Mr. Washburne. I doubt if men in Congress fully realize that you and I are honest in our professions of want of ambition. I know I feel none, and to-day will gladly surrender my position and influence to any other who is better able to wield the power. The flurry attending my recent success will soon blow over, and give place to new developments.

I inclose a letter of general instructions to General Thomas,* which I beg you to revise and indorse or modify.

I am, truly, yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January 21, 1865.

Admiral D. D. PORTER,
Wilmington:

DEAR ADMIRAL: I wrote you yesterday by Captain Ammen, and have this moment received a package, giving me very full reports from General Palmer of matters in North Carolina, which I am very glad to have received.

The weather has been villainous, and all the country is under water, and retards me much. It may be some days yet before I can cast off, as the roads are under water, and my men are not exactly amphibious yet, nor the mules either. I shall spare no efforts to be off, and the foul weather of January may be a guarantee for better in February and March. In the present attitude of things I would not deem it wise to push your gun-boats up to Wilmington, unless it could be done quick, for they will surely remove everything of value. You already have all that is of any value to you. As to the town, the land forces should watch it close, and slip in when it is discovered that I am approaching. I have been much embarrassed by the want of shoal-water craft, five or six feet draft, and would ask to borrow some of you, but suppose all of yours are deep-sea craft, but if you have any short and shallow boats to spare for a few days it would help me much, both in Broad River and the Savannah. The deep boats get aground all the time, and the long ones cannot make the bends. You know, of course, that I am going to load up finally at Pocotaligo and Sister's Ferry, on the Savannah. I have turned over everything to General Foster and General Grover, the latter commands the city and former the department, made to extend up the coast to the Chesapeake. It would be well if the Navy Department would unite yours and Dahlgren's jurisdiction, or shove the line of demarkation.

The admiral here is very kind, indeed, and does for me everything possible.

The best part of the taking of Fort Fisher was the killing of Butler. He has no blood on his skirts, and, judging from the past, it will be long before his blood stains anything. His solicitude for the blood of

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*See Vol. XLV, Part II, p. 621.

his men is a.. moonshine, and his whole bombastic order was designed as a fling at Grant. The latter has quietly and completely laid him low forever. Even the nigger cannot resurrect him. I may write you again from camp about Coosawhatchie, but I now consider myself afloat.

With sincere respect, as ever, your friend,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
OFFICE OF PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
Beaufort, January 21, 1865.

Statement of two negroes who escaped from Charleston on the morning of the 19th of January, 1865.

Alfred, belonging to Dr. Francis Willis, of Savannah, and Tom, belonging to George H. Waring, of Savannah, were employed on the telegraph lines in and about Charleston, the former in the office of Willie Willis, telegraph operator at Charleston. They escaped from Charleston before daylight on the 19th, and state that General Hardee is in command of Charleston, General Johnston in command of the district. There is one division (General Wright's) in and about Charleston, two brigades being inside the works at Charleston, one brigade at Adams' Run, about twenty-seven miles from Charleston, between here and there, and one brigade at John's Island. There are two brigades one mile and a half beyond the ferry across the Combahee River and a masked battery of field artillery on the left of the road three-fourths of a mile beyond the ferry. At Rantowles the road forks, one road leading to John's Island. It is ten miles by the dirt road and twelve miles by the railroad from Rantowles to Charleston. There are two small forts on the dirt road (the Charleston and Savannah State road) two miles beyond Rantowles, near where two large factory chimneys are left standing, the building being burned. There were no guns in them when these men passed. Toward Charleston from this place is the Five-Mile Fort, being two works, one on each side of the road, each mounting about four guns. The guns are black and they think are not field pieces. There are no rifle-pits near these forts. They both cover the dirt road, the one on the right going to Charleston also covering the railroad. Two miles and a half from Charleston there are rifle-pits crossing the dirt road, extending on the right going from here about half a mile to a marsh, and on the left about half a mile, inclosing a plantation house, but do not know where they terminate. They can be seen distinctly for some distance, being on high ground.

Beyond this, near the new bridge, going into town, are two large forts, having no guns with the exception of one very large one. The guns for the defense of the place are all on the other side toward the bay. The troops mentioned are all Browne's Georgia Reserves. All the old troops that were there before the fall of Savannah have been sent to Branchville; also troops from Augusta and those that escaped from Savannah. There are about ten warehouses filled with cotton at Charleston. The people wish to get it away, but General Hardee says he cannot give them transportation. All the engines and cars have been sent off excepting just enough for the use of the troops on the Savannah railroad. The people expect Charleston to be evacuated.

Colonel Roy, General Hardee's adjutant-general, told Mr. Willis that they expected to have to evacuate and make a stand at Branchville. Colonel Roy also said that General Lee could not spare any troops from Richmond, as he had barely enough to hold it. Some troops were sent down to Branchville from Richmond, but afterward ordered back.

JAMES WILSON,
Col. and Provost-Marshal-General, Dept. and Army of the Tenn.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 33. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, January 21, 1865.*

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29. The telegraphic order dated Fortress Monroe, Va., January 6, 1865, directing Bvt. Brig. Gen. D. C. McCallum, superintendent military railroads, to proceed without delay to report in person to Major-General Sherman, at Savannah, or wherever he might be found, is hereby confirmed.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 19. } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE, *Beaufort, S. C., January 21, 1865.*

I. The pioneer battalion (colored) of the Seventeenth Army Corps, Capt. J. H. Davis commanding, is relieved from further duty at this point and will forthwith join the corps at or near Pocotaligo.

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By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 5. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS, *Beaufort, S. C., January 21, 1865.*

I. Bvt. Brig. Gen. William B. Woods, having, by direction of the major-general commanding the army, reported for duty in accordance with his brevet rank, is hereby assigned to command of the First Brigade of this division. He will at once assume command accordingly.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. Woods:

FRED. H. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 21, 1865.

Capt. S. L. TAGGART,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: In accordance with instructions to make demonstrations toward the Salkehatchie River, I sent General Mower, with his entire

command, yesterday morning to endeavor to cross about three miles above the bridge and get in rear of the force stationed there. He reached the river without difficulty, finding no pickets on either side. During dry weather the river is fordable, and in this way General Mower expected to cross, but the recent rains had so swollen the stream that he found it impossible to get over without boats. He was therefore obliged to return. In order to protect General Mower's rear I sent in the morning to the forks of the road, about six miles from here, two regiments from the Fourth Division. They took up a position covering the roads as soon as General Mower had passed. During the morning they were attacked by a force of cavalry, supposed to be one South Carolina regiment. After a lively skirmish they repulsed them, leaving three rebels dead on the field and as many wounded. Our loss was 1 captured and 1 wounded. I am convinced that if General Mower had had the means of crossing he would at least have captured their artillery.

Respectfully,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

P. S.—General Mower thinks that he withdrew without the enemy being aware of his presence.

F. P. B.,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 21, 1865.

Major-General BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Corps:

GENERAL: I shall be at Pocotaligo myself shortly, and until I arrive I would prefer that you remain there. General Sherman particularly requested me not to reconnoiter beyond the Salkehatchie, and I am glad that General Mower did not cross the river.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, January 21, 1865.

General KILPATRICK:

Move in conformity with General Davis' column, letting him get one day's start of you. The advance of his column is about seven miles from the city, stuck fast in the mud. This will delay your moving till Monday morning at best.

L. M. DAYTON,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 7. HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 21, 1865.

The command and charge of the city of Savannah and dependencies having, by the order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman, commanding Military Division of the Mississippi, been assigned to me as a portion of the Department of the South, I hereby assume command thereof.

This district of the department will be designated the District of Savannah, and will embrace the city of Savannah, with its forts, lines of defense and communication, Fort Pulaski, and the islands and country adjacent, to the extent of the military control of the garrison.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. Cuvier Grover, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby assigned to the command of the District of Savannah.

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 8. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, *Hilton Head, S. C., January 21, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. R. Saxton, having been assigned by the major-general commanding the Military Division of the Mississippi, in Special Field Orders, No. 15, current series, dated, "In the field, Savannah, Ga., January 16, 1865," to the duties of providing for the well being of the negroes, and their location upon the plantations, as "inspector of settlements and plantations," is hereby announced as such, and will be respected accordingly.

District commanders are hereby directed to afford the necessary military protection, in accordance with the above-named special field orders, copies of which are furnished.

The limits of the districts, within which this protection is to be afforded, are defined as follows:

The commandant of the Northern District, to settlements on the islands and coast, as far south as the North Edisto River.

The commandant of the District of Beaufort, from the North Edisto River to Broad River.

The commandant of the District of Hilton Head, to the islands lying between Broad and the Savannah Rivers.

The commandant of the District of Savannah, to the islands between the Savannah River and Saint Mary's Sound.

The commandant of the District of Florida, to the settlements from Saint Mary's Sound, southward to Jupiter Inlet, including those upon the Saint John's River.

The points at which the negro settlers will have the opportunity of supplying their necessary wants and selling the products of their lands and labor, as prescribed in the above-mentioned special field orders, will be Hilton Head, S. C., Fernandina, Fla., and such other points as may hereafter be designated.

Brig. Gen. E. E. Potter will relieve Brigadier-General Saxton of the military command of the District of Beaufort, which is hereby enlarged to include the intrenched camp near Pocotaligo, S. C.

By command of Maj. Gen. J. G. Foster:

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 21, 1865.

COMDG. OFFICER DETACH. 32D U. S. COLORED TROOPS,
Hilton Head, S. C.:

SIR: The major-general commanding directs that you rejoin your regiment immediately with your command and with the camp equip-

age of the regiment. General Saxton will send a steamer to Seabrook for your command. You will hold your men in readiness to embark with rations, &c., and see that you are immediately informed of the arrival of the steamer.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THORNDIKE D. HODGES,

Capt., Thirty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 21, 1865.

Brig. Gen. A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Comdg. Northern Dist., Dept. of the South, Morris Island, S. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your reports of the 12th and 13th instant, giving information in regard to the enemy's force, operations, and garrisons, and of the operations in your own district. I am directed by the major-general commanding to state that all such information is very valuable to him, and he requests that you will keep him fully posted from time to time on all such information. Active operations will soon take place in your district.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
January 21, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. R. SAXTON,
Commanding District of Beaufort:

GENERAL: The general commanding has granted your request. The detachment of the Thirty-second U. S. Colored Troops, with camp equipage, has been ordered to hold itself in readiness to embark on the steamer at Seabrook and rejoin its regiment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THORNDIKE D. HODGES,

Capt., Thirty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 21, 1865.

Brigadier-General HATCH,
Commanding Coast Division, Deveaux's Neck:

GENERAL: I have the orders of General Sherman to establish an intrenched camp at or near Pocotaligo, to cover the roads to Port Royal Ferry and also to the head of Broad River. This camp is to be a position where there can be room for 5,000 men to maneuver and fight, but capable of being held by from 500 to 1,000 men in a citadel or small field work. It is also to be such a position as to enable troops to debouch from it in various directions for operations in the country when desirable. It strikes me that the fort at Pocotaligo is just the position desired, and that its present condition gives us the advantage of having a work constructed to our hands. I have sent Captain

Suter to consult with you about this, and to carefully reconnoiter all other positions. As soon as you have decided upon the point, let me have your recommendation at once, so as to be able to decide. I have assigned Brigadier-General Potter to the military command of the District of Beaufort. He will, however, be subject to your orders as long as you are in his vicinity. It is intended to move your division to the Northern District after General Sherman moves, and to operate as hereafter directed. General Schimmelfennig and his force will, while you are there, be under your orders. A portion of Admiral Porter's fleet has already arrived at Charleston bar. Please push the work on the landings at Whale Branch and Mackay's Point; also the arrangements for the intrenched position as soon as selected.

Respectfully, yours,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
CHIEF ENGINEER'S OFFICE,
Savannah, Ga., January 21, 1865.

Major-General GROVER,
Commanding U. S. Forces, Savannah:

In accordance with your request I have the honor of submitting the following memoranda with reference to the defense of the city of Savannah:

First. The defense of the city itself: This is accomplished by the line of works now in process of construction after the plan indicated in my letter to Major-General Sherman, dated December 26, 1864.* These works are now ready to receive sixty guns, partly siege and partly field artillery, and, in my opinion, are in a condition which would warrant their defense by the garrison estimated for. Captain Suter, U. S. Engineers, and chief engineer, Department of the South, has been furnished with a trace of this line on which the several positions of the guns, composing the complete armament, are indicated. Captain Suter has also been furnished with those maps, captured at this city, which relate to the defense. Opposite the city on the main Carolina shore two small works should be built to command the Union Causeway and the Huger Causeway.

The above contemplates an attack by a much larger force than the garrison, and, in my opinion, will never be made.

Second. The defense of the approaches: Three main roads lead into the city from inland, viz, the Ogeechee plank road (Darien), the Louisville stage road, the Augusta stage road. The last two join within one mile and a half of the city. The points where the enemy's late lines crossed these roads furnish the best defense. When taken in conjunction with the obstacles formed by opening the sluice gates at high tide the positions are strong. If the bridge across the Ogeechee at King's is destroyed it effectually cuts off direct approach by that road, and it can only be reached by crossing the river above and getting to it by some of the numerous cross-roads. An enemy would not be likley to do this unless he were in largely superior force, since he would necessarily put himself in a "pocket."

Third. The defense of the river navigation: This is best accomplished by a force stationed at this city large enough to go out and fight

* See Vol. XLIV, p. 811.

any enemy that would be likely to approach. In order that our opponents might reach any of the points where they could injure us much, they would be compelled to thrust themselves some miles beyond us, leaving whatever garrison there might be in Savannah on their flank and in rear. They could not interrupt navigation without establishing themselves in inclosed works upon the bank of Saint Augustine Creek (we hold Fort Jackson), and very short time would suffice for the capture of any enemy having temerity enough to do this. With all our great resources of water transportation I regard it impossible for our enemy to make a successful lodgment on Saint Augustine Creek.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. M. POE,

Captain of Engineers, Brevet Colonel, U. S. Army,
Chief Engineer Military Division of the Mississippi.

A map is in course of preparation and under my direction, which will clearly show the topography of Savannah and vicinity, the works of attack and defense, the new lines constructed during our occupation of the city, and the lines of 1814. As soon as completed it will be forwarded to the Engineer Department.*

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Savannah, Ga., January 21, 1865.

General INNIS N. PALMER,
Commanding District of North Carolina, New Berne:

DEAR GENERAL: I have this moment received your letter of the 17th, inclosing the very full and complete returns which give me all the data, save only the gauge of your railroad, of which we are in doubt. One of my charts represent the gauge as four feet ten inches and the other at five feet. I shall send up my principal railroad man, Col. W. W. Wright, to look at it and accummulate at Morehead City and New Berne iron and cars ready for use when the time comes. We can supply all these, if of the five-feet gauge, out of captured stock. I don't want you to risk New Berne or Morehead City, and to take Kinston now would attract attention and lengthen your line too much to be held with any degree of security. Therefore don't attempt to hold more than you now have until you know I am near at hand, and you can discover the effect of my approach.

I shall aim to reach Goldsborough, the effect of which will be threefold: First. With my army at Goldsborough the enemy could not remain at Wilmington. Second. I would have two railroads to the coast for supplies, viz, to Morehead City and Wilmington Third. Goldsborough is the point from which to strike Raleigh.

If my army can fight its way across South Carolina and reach Goldsborough these results will be certain.

I have already secured Pocotaligo and am moving my army into position on a line from Sister's Ferry, on the Savannah, across to Pocotaligo, whence I will move around Charleston and across the country to Fayetteville and Goldsborough or Wilmington according to the supplies I find. General Foster will hold Savannah, &c., and will have a small force in hand to take advantage of any let-go the enemy may venture to make. I would have been off before this, but I am delayed by the rains, which have flooded the whole country. Don't attract

* See Plate LXX, Map 2 of the Atlas.

attention, but hold New Berne and Morehead City (Fort Macon) secure as points for me to depend on. Don't risk anything; let me run the risk, but stand prepared to aid me as I approach. I leave my chief quartermaster and commissary here to follow me up with boats and supplies.

I do not think Grant will spare you any more men, nor do I suppose them necessary for the simply defensive position you should maintain. As I approach you I may aim for the railroad, near where it crosses the Neuse near Kinston, as I suppose there the enemy will oppose me, and it may be prudent to open communication with you before I cross and attack the position at Kinston or Goldsborough, but Goldsborough is the strategic point I shall aim to secure in North Carolina.

I am, with respect, your obedient servant,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 21, 1865.

Brig. Gen. I. N. PALMER, or
COMMANDING OFFICER DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA:

The District of North Carolina having been added to my command by the Secretary of War, at the request of General Sherman, in order to concentrate more effectually the resources of the seaboard in co-operating with the movements of his army inland, I have the honor to inclose you confidential instructions for your guidance. It is possible that I may not be present at the time your services are needed, in which case you will be prepared to act with promptitude in obedience to any orders which you may receive from General Sherman. General Sherman, as you will see by the inclosed orders,* has command over this department as well as those within his Military Division of the West.

Your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 21, 1865.

Brigadier-General PALMER, or
COMMANDING OFFICER DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA:

The present plans of General Sherman contemplate a devastating march through South Carolina and into North Carolina. Upon arriving in North Carolina he will draw his supplies from New Berne by striking the railroad at Goldsborough. He may also before reaching Goldsborough obtain supplies by striking the coast at Wilmington. There is more certainty, however, of his striking the railroad at Goldsborough. You will, therefore, make every preparation, not only to aid promptly and efficiently the forwarding of supplies when General Sherman reaches that point, but also to have your position perfectly secure against any attempts that may possibly be made against you, by detachments from Lee's army, for the purpose of preventing the attainment of the very purpose sought to be secured by these orders. In the first place be sure and watch the enemy, and prevent any attempt to destroy the railroad within the limits of your extreme outer pickets,

* See Special Field Orders, No. 13, January 15, p. 52.

and as much beyond as you possibly can defend. Secondly. Prepare for landing and forwarding, either from New Berne or Beaufort, principally from Beaufort, supplies for 70,000 men and 40,000 animals. (These supplies are to come from here in transports). The wharves at Beaufort must be put in order, and all the facilities for landing supplies made perfect. Accurate information must also be obtained of the extent of railroad between Batchelder's Creek and Kinston, which it will be necessary to rebuild. Also the condition of the bridge over the Trent at Kinston. Lieutenant-Colonel Wright, of General Sherman's army, will be sent up to ascertain all the wants of the railroad, rolling-stock, construction, &c. General McCallum, the railroad constructor, is here and at the proper time will be there ready for immediate work.

What I want to know from you is, exactly what is wanted, so that it may be provided and brought there at the moment for operations. The object is not to divulge the important fact that a new base is to be made at that point until the last moment. I want also to know how much of the railroad from Beaufort to Goldsborough you can protect after General Sherman has reached Goldsborough, and the exact force you can concentrate for this or any other purpose. Of course no movement of any description will be made until you receive orders from General Sherman or myself. General Sherman will probably be at Goldsborough, or in communication with you, by the 22d of February. The greatest secrecy must be observed by yourself to prevent the enemy ascertaining the fact that General Sherman will draw his supplies over the railroad to Goldsborough. If they penetrate the secret they will, of course, destroy the railroad. You will divulge the information contained in this confidential letter to no one, but make all the preparations ordered.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 21, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. H. TERRY, or
COMMANDING OFFICER U. S. FORCES,
Wilmington, N. C.:

The District of North Carolina having been added to my department by the honorable Secretary of War, at the request of Major-General Sherman, in order to facilitate concentration of resources to supply his army while marching inland, I inclose to you the following confidential instructions, which you will carry out if you are to remain there, and if you are removed you will turn over to your successor, with the proper cautions as to secrecy. I may not be present at the time for action, in which case you will depend upon instructions from Brigadier-General Hatch or General Sherman direct. General Sherman, as you will see from general orders inclosed,* has entire command of this as well as the departments forming the Military Division of the Mississippi.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

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* See Special Field Orders, No. 13, January 15, p. 52.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 21, 1865.

Confidential instructions to Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry, or the Commanding Officer U. S. Forces, Wilmington, N. C.

General Sherman's plans contemplate a devastating march through South Carolina and into North Carolina. He will draw his supplies from the coast, receiving them by different rivers in South Carolina, and when he arrives in North Carolina, from Wilmington and from New Berne. His army has now commenced moving. Full and definite instructions have been given to General Palmer, at New Berne. Less definite instructions are given to you, because it is not certain that Wilmington may be taken at the time General Sherman arrives in North Carolina, and also that you be prepared to take efficient independent action. What I wish attained by this information is a vigilant watch for General Sherman's appearance in your vicinity about the 15th of February, and as great a preparation on your part for the purpose of aiding him. The supplies for his army will come from here in transports loaded for the purpose. There are many things, however, which you can do to facilitate the transmission of these supplies to his army when it arrives. These preparations should have in view the fact that his army numbers 70,000 men and 40,000 animals. If Wilmington be taken you will occupy as much of the railroad toward Manchester as possible, and guard as many of the bridges in that direction as you can. In fact, the same order holds good in regard to the Goldsborough railroad and the railroad through Lumberton and Rockingham toward Charlotte. If Wilmington be not taken of course you can do nothing of this kind, but must be on the watch and ready to act when required. The utmost secrecy must be observed in regard to this. The enemy may suspect the locality of General Sherman's route, but nothing should transpire to lead them to any conclusion as to his real objects or the points at which he is to get supplies.

Relying upon your discretion in this matter, I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HILTON HEAD, *January 22, 1865.*

General HOWARD:

I am at Hilton Head. Will be up to-morrow. My staff and horses on the steamer Coit will be up in an hour. Let some officer look out for their comfort, as I want the boat to return to Savannah early to-morrow to bring another load. I have ordered the balance of John E. Smith's division and Logan's headquarters to come to you by water. Corse will come by Sister's Ferry. I will be up to-morrow.

SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HILTON HEAD, *January 22, 1865.*

General HOWARD:

I ordered all mules whose wagons had come to Beaufort to be sent; also the remaining wagons and mules of John E. Smith's. I had a long talk with Logan and arranged for three complete divisions of his corps to come to Pocotaligo, leaving only Corse to come by Sister's Ferry. The present storms will delay us much. I wanted the boat Coit to discharge, so as not to lose to-morrow's tide, but as the rain will delay us there is no need of such hurry.

SHERMAN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 16. } HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS, *Savannah, Ga., January 22, 1865.*

Col. J. B. McCown, commanding First Brigade, Third Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, will move with his command and the transportation of his division to Beaufort, S. C., by water, without delay, reporting to Bvt. Maj. Gen. John E. Smith, commanding Third Division.

Colonel McCown will report in person to Lieut. Col. G. L. Fort, chief quartermaster Fifteenth Army Corps, who will furnish the necessary transportation.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. M. Corse:

A. W. EDWARDS,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 22, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. R. SAXTON, U. S. Volunteers,
Beaufort, S. C.:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to inclose you Major-General Sherman's Special Field Orders, No. 15,* appointing you inspector of negro settlements and plantations in this department; also General Orders, No. 8,† current series, from these headquarters, placing Brig. Gen. E. E. Potter in command of the District of Beaufort. Major-General Sherman has placed at the disposal of General Foster a large number of animals, partially broken down, that will be loaned to the negroes to be used by them on the plantations until they are sufficiently recuperated for active service, when they will be called for. Please send word to these headquarters about how many of these animals you desire, and they will be sent at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *January 23, 1865—2 p. m.*
(Received 3.30 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

Please have all transports collected for the transportation of Schofield's command coaled and watered and rations loaded. The troops

* See p. 52. † See p. 108.

should start with five days' issued, and from 200,000 to 250,000 rations stored in the holds of the vessels. This will give a supply that will last until more could be got to them. As soon as transports for a division are ready they might be sent to Fortress Monroe to report by telegraph for orders.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 23, 1865—3.50 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

Some time since orders were sent to General Thomas to forward to Savannah, via New York, all fractions of regiments, &c., belonging to the corps under General Sherman. General Meagher telegraphs to-day from Pittsburg that he has 7,000 men and wants transports ready in New York, but General Van Vliet says that he cannot furnish them if he sends transports here to meet Schofield's corps. To which shall the transports be given first? If Meagher's command stops in New York it is feared that very many will desert, and there are no quarters for them on Governor's Island. Please reply immediately.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, *January 23, 1865—7 p. m.*
(Received 7.30 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

Order Meagher to Alexandria. We will send Schofield's corps first, and add this detachment to it until such time as it can be got to Sherman. It is too late now for it to reach Sherman from Pocotaligo.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Beaufort, S. C., January 23, 1865.

Colonel POE,
Chief Engineer, Savannah:

General Sherman directs that you join him via this place and order the First Michigan Engineer Regiment to follow you in like manner. Apply to General Easton for such transportation as may be required.

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Beaufort, S. C., January 23, 1865.

Bvt. Col. O. M. POE,
Chief Engineer, Military Division of the Mississippi:

COLONEL: By direction of Major-General Sherman I have telegraphed you to join him via this place, and now repeat the instruc-

tions, as also the further instructions for you to direct the engineer regiment (First Michigan Engineers) to come this way also. Apply to General Easton, chief quartermaster, for such transportation as you may require in conforming to this order.

I am, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Beaufort, S. C., January 23, 1865.

General EASTON,
Savannah:

Transport to Beaufort, by boats, all of Howard's troops, wagons, and mules, except Corse's division, which can move with the Left Wing. I have sent you every boat available from this quarter and would like you to push this job at one trip.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 21.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 23, 1865.

I. The First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, having the most transportation, the quartermaster thereof, in accordance with the directions of the chief quartermaster of the army, will turn over to Lieutenant Brown, acting assistant quartermaster, pontoon train, five six-mule teams with harness and wagons complete for the use of that organization. As good teams are required the present ones in the division will not be selected for this purpose.

II. As directed by Major-General Sherman, upon the advance of this army all unnecessary servants and non-combatants will be left behind. All chests for office papers and baggage not strictly necessary in the field, and all tents save one for headquarters of each brigade, division, corps, or army, and such as may be necessary for hospital purposes, will be sent to Beaufort or Hilton Head and left in charge of proper persons until such time as they can follow by water. Flies only will be used for shelter. The inspector-general's department is charged with the requirements of this order.

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VII. Brig. Gen. W. T. Clark, U. S. Volunteers, will report to Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, commanding Fifteenth Army Corps, for assignment to the command of the First Brigade, Third Division, Fifteenth Army Corps.

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By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 23, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to send you the inclosed copy of telegram from General Sherman to General Easton,* and to say that you will give orders to General Corse to move his division (entire) with the Left Wing of the army, sending the remainder of your command to this point as rapidly as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 23, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: General Sherman says he cannot possibly spare the steamers from carrying supplies to Purysburg and Pocotaligo, in order to transport General Corse's division. Please direct General Corse to move back over the route he came, between the Big and Little Ogeechee Rivers, keeping up as high as, or higher, than the Twenty-Mile Station. Perhaps it would be better to take General Blair's old route from Station No. 2 back to Guyton, or No. 3, and thence via Springfield to Sister's Ferry. He should proceed thence by some route parallel to Davis' line of march to Hickory Hill. At that point you will be able to unite your corps. This march General Corse can make easily in seven days, but he will have to be exceedingly careful of forage until he crosses the Savannah. If General Corse should happen to fall one or even two days in rear of your other divisions at Hickory Hill it will not matter.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

P. S.—I do not make the order imperative as to the route, but rather suggestive.

O. O. H.,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 23, 1865.

Capt. SAMUEL L. TAGGART,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report my arrival at this point at 12 m. to-day. I left Savannah at 6 a. m. on the 19th instant, in compliance with orders from headquarters Fifteenth Army Corps (the Fourth Division and animals of Second Division were to follow). The road across Hutchinson's Island and the levees between the island and the Union Causeway, although badly cut up, were passable up to 12 m. of the 19th, when the rain and sudden rise of water made them impassable. I had gone forward to New River bridge, fourteen miles from Savannah, to see if it was in readiness to cross, but, finding it would

* See p. 117.

not be completed until about 4 p. m., I made my arrangements to camp at the junction of the Hardeeville and Charleston roads. At about 2 p. m. the head of my column arrived, and the ammunition and part of the supply trains following closely. I expected the remainder of my division would arrive without serious difficulty. About this time I received a communication from Major-General Logan directing me to assume command of the Third and Fourth Divisions, when the orderly informed me that the balance of the troops were on the island and could not come forward, owing to the condition of the roads.

I sent a staff officer to communicate with General Corse, and on the morning of the 20th sent the pioneer corps of the Third and Fourth Divisions, but they found it impossible to join the troops on the island, the road between the rice fields and them being covered with water to the depth of four feet. I rode back, intending to reach Savannah by Screven's Ferry, but found it impossible to get nearer than two miles. I had, however, upon learning the situation of the troops on the island, ordered Colonel McCown, commanding First Brigade, that if he could not get the wagons out to abandon them and return with the men and animals as speedily as possible.

Upon my return from my attempt to communicate by way of Screven's Ferry I met Captain Wellman, whom I had sent to General Corse. He informed me that the troops had been ordered to return to Savannah by Major-General Logan, and that he thought but few wagons would have to be abandoned. He also brought directions from Major-General Logan to push through to this place the best I could. I accordingly broke camp at 7 a. m. on the 21st instant, marching through water not deep enough for navigation, but too deep to say we came by land.

It has rained incessantly from 12 m. of the 19th to 10 a. m. this date.

The officers and men were very patient; to be cheerful was beyond human nature. I have with me the Second Brigade, composed of three regiments; Battery B, First Michigan Artillery, and all of supply trains except twenty-seven wagons.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 23, 1865—9.10 p. m.*

General MEAGHER,
Pittsburg, Pa.:

Bring all your command to Washington, instead of New York, and report to General Augur for transports and orders.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Copies to General Augur and General Charles Thomas.)

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 23, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. W. B. HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that he wishes you to detail about 400 men to work on the road between this

point and the bridge at Port Royal Ferry. He also wishes you to send in a quartermaster to receipt for and take out some 200 axes, to be used by a portion of your detail in cutting material for corduroying the road, the axes to be returned to the depot quartermaster when the work shall have been done. The road is in very bad condition, and the general is anxious to have it put in as good repair as possible. Should you not have sufficient teams with your command to enable you to push the work rapidly, you can borrow from General Woods' division. Please place the detail in charge of a driving officer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 23, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that in accordance with General Sherman's desire to threaten Charleston, he wishes your demonstration of the 20th instant to the Salkehatchie repeated and, if possible, a lodgment effected on the other side. He suggests that you make a trestle or floating bridge out of such material as may be most convenient for crossing infantry only. The general also directs me to say you had better not attempt to send in any more wagons than you can possibly help for the present, as the road is bad enough now and trains passing over it would cut it up so much as to render it impassable for some time to come. General Hazen and General Woods are at work corduroying and repairing it from here to Garden's Corners. You must make it good the rest of the way.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 7. } HDQRS. 2D DIV., 14TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Ga., January 23, 1865.

The following-named officers are announced to serve on the staff of the general commanding: Capt. Robert B. Stinson, Sixtieth Illinois Veteran Volunteer Infantry, acting assistant inspector-general; Capt. Hiram Craft, Ninety-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, provost-marshal. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Brig. Gen. James D. Morgan:

T. WISEMAN,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., 20TH ARMY CORPS,
Purysburg, S. C., January 23, 1865.

Captain SPEED,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following suggestions for the information of the general commanding, received from Captain Webber from General Sherman's headquarters: About 2 o'clock yesterday

afternoon the gun-boat Pontiac and transport General Lee moved up the river from this point nearly to Ebenezer Church, on the Georgia side of the river, where the gun-boat halted, and the General Lee went on two or three miles farther and, in the opinion of Captain Webber, ten miles this side of Sister's Ferry. At Ebenezer Church he saw a number of rebel cavalry and indications which led him to believe there was quite a force in that vicinity. Captain Webber thinks it is forty miles from this point to Sister's Ferry by the river.

I am, captain, your obedient servant,

DANL. DUSTIN,
Colonel, Commanding Second Brigade.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. COAST DIV., DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
No. 3. } *Deveaux's Neck, S. C., January 23, 1865.*

I. Brig. Gen. E. E. Potter, having been assigned to the command of the District of Beaufort, is hereby relieved from duty with this division.

II. Col. Charles H. Van Wyck, Fifty-sixth New York Volunteers, will relieve Brigadier-General Potter of the command of the First Brigade of this division.

III. The two companies of the Fifty-fourth New York Volunteers now on duty with this division are hereby relieved, and will proceed to, as soon as transportation can be furnished, the Northern District, Department of the South.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

CITY POINT, *January 24, 1865—9.30 a. m.*
(Received 11 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

I shall probably leave here by 12 noon to-morrow for Fort Fisher. All the troops of Schofield's command may be forwarded directly to that point. Meagher's command will go in the same way in the absence of further directions. If Schofield reaches Washington in time I would like to have him accompany me.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 24, 1865—12 m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

If General Schofield does not arrive in time to join you I will send him forward on the first transport.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *January 24, 1865.*

Brigadier-General INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster:

As rapidly as it can be sent in addition to previous calls, I want fifteen miles of railroad iron sent from Norfolk or elsewhere to Beaufort, N. C. Men will also be required to lay the track from New Berne to Kinston. The steamer Escort, or one of like draught and capacity, will be wanted at Beaufort for permanent use.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Beaufort, S. C., January 24, 1865.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: I was directed this morning by General Sherman to write you by steamer Arago, as follows: He reached here yesterday from Savannah and this morning went up to Pocotaligo to look to matters in person, and proposes to-morrow to secure Salkehatchie bridge as a demonstration, and also to then reconnoiter until Slocum gets out to high ground from Sister's Ferry. The storm has been severe and continuous for several days, delaying movements by bad roads, but now it is clear; the roads are improving rapidly and it bids fair for good weather. I may hear from the general during the night and will then dispatch you further.

I am, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Beaufort, S. C., January 24, 1865.

Admiral DAHLGREN:

DEAR ADMIRAL: Weather is now fine and promises us dry land. I will go to day to Pocotaligo and Coosawhatchie. To-morrow will demonstrate on Salkehatchie, and would be obliged if you would feel up Edisto or Stono, just to make the enemy uneasy on that flank, and to develop if he intends to hold fast to Charleston and Columbia both. It will take five days for Slocum to get out of the savannas of Savannah, and during that time I will keep Howard seemingly moving direct on Charleston, though with no purpose of going beyond the Salkehatchie.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HILTON HEAD, *January 24, 1865—4 p. m.*

Major-General SHERMAN:

This northwest wind will dry up the roads and drain the swamps. The Sonoma is in the North Edisto; the Dai Ching in the Combahee, with orders to annoy the rebels as much as possible; to land and drive in their pickets. The Pawnee is just leaving for the South Edisto. I

hear that a battery and obstructions have been felt on the Ashepoo, and much alarm at our reconnaissance. The Pawnee will go there and try to knock it down. It is said to be twenty miles up the Ashepoo. If General Howard's men feel that way it might prove of interest.

J. A. DAHLGREN,
Rear-Admiral, U. S. Navy.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Beaufort, S. C., January 24, 1865.

General EASTON, *Savannah:*

You may employ any vessels suitable for deep water, carrying soldiers, wagons, or ammunition of the Right Wing as long as General Logan wants you, but do not relax your efforts to get food and forage up to Sister's Ferry by the time Davis gets there. Weather is now fine, and if it lasts will make our roads fine in a very short while. On this clear spell we must reach Barnwell and the Augusta road. Keep things moving night and day. I go to Pocotaligo to-day.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

SAVANNAH, GA., *January 24, 1865.*

Major-General SHERMAN:

Your telegram received. The Fifteenth Corps still have here, to go by water, about 3,400 men, 2,400 animals, 280 wagons, and 16 ambulances. I will get them off as soon as possible.

L. C. EASTON,
Chief Quartermaster.

SAVANNAH, GA., *January 24, 1865.*

Major DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

In the absence of any orders or instructions I directed the Michigan Engineers to accompany the Fourteenth Corps, which column seemed to need their services. They marched yesterday about 1 o'clock. Shall I recall them?

O. M. POE,
Capt., and Chief Engineer Military Division of the Mississippi.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Beaufort, S. C., January 24, 1865—10 a. m.

Col. O. M. POE,
Chief Engineer, Savannah, Ga.:

Your dispatch is received. The general has gone to Pocotaligo an hour since, but I will overtake him with courier for answer.

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Beaufort, S. C., January 24, 1865.

Col. O. M. POE,
Chief Engineer, Savannah:

Let the Michigan Engineers go as you have ordered them. They will not be needed here.

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 4. } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 24, 1865.

The following awards of medals of honor have been made to the enlisted men herein mentioned for distinguished service in the field and other soldier-like qualities:

To August Stehr, sergeant, Company F, Fifty-eighth Regiment, Illinois Infantry Volunteers, medal of silver inscribed: "Faithful and efficient service in the Adjutant-General's Office, Department and Army of the Tennessee." To Oliver E. Slusser, private, Company E, Forty-eighth Indiana Infantry Volunteers, medal of silver inscribed: "Siege of Corinth, battles of Corinth, Iuka, Raymond, Jackson, Champion's Hill, Vicksburg (July 4, 1863). Faithful and efficient service in the Adjutant-General's Office, Department and Army of the Tennessee." To William H. Pritchard, private, Tenth Ohio Battery, medal of silver inscribed: "Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta. Faithful and efficient service in the Adjutant-General's Office, Department and Army of the Tennessee." To Albert B. Wilcox, private, Battery A, First Illinois Light Artillery, medal of silver inscribed: "Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, Champion's Hill, Vicksburg (July 4, 1863), Mission Ridge, Resaca, Dallas. Faithful and efficient service in the Adjutant-General's Office, Department and Army of the Tennessee." To Isaac A. Bemis, private, Company E, Sixteenth Wisconsin Infantry Volunteers, medal of silver inscribed: "Atlanta, Savannah. Faithful and efficient service in Adjutant-General's Office, Department and Army of the Tennessee." To James R. Reniff, private, Company H, Seventy-second Regiment Illinois Infantry Volunteers, medal of silver inscribed: "Vicksburg (July 4, 1863). Atlanta, Savannah. Faithful and efficient service in Adjutant-General's Office, Department and Army of the Tennessee."

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 24, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division, Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The work of destroying the railroad is completed. No more details will report to Colonel Swayne.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Beaufort, S. C., January 24, 1865.

General SLOCUM,
Left Wing:

DEAR GENERAL: Weather is now magnificent, and we must take all advantage possible of it. The roads here cut deep also, and your best plan is to move rapidly to Robertsville via Sister's Ferry, and don't lose an hour of time. See Easton, that he gets boats to that point also, and we must get up on the Charleston and Augusta road in this spell of good weather. I go to Pocotaligo to-day, and will secure the Salkehatchie bridge, and make Hardee believe I am coming straight for Charleston. I shall expect to hear of you about Sister's Ferry in four days—say 29th.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. } HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 24, 1865.

The following officers are hereby announced upon the staff of the major-general commanding: Lieut. Col. H. G. Litchfield, assistant inspector-general; Capt. G. W. Smith, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, aide-de-camp.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Beaufort, S. C., January 24, 1865.

Major-General FOSTER,
Hilton Head:

General Sherman desires that you complete the telegraph line from this place to Pocotaligo.

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HILTON HEAD, *January 24, 1865—11.40 a. m.*

Major-General SHERMAN:

The steamer brings dates of the 20th from New York with recruits which I send up on the Louise. I will at once get the men at work on the telegraph line to Pocotaligo.

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 11. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 24, 1865.

During the temporary absence of Lieut. Col. James F. Hall, First New York Volunteer Engineers, provost-marshal-general of this depart-

ment, Lieut. Col. Stewart L. Woodford, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers, will perform the duties of that office, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Maj. Gen. J. G. Foster:

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 24, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. GROVER,
Commanding, &c., Savannah, Ga.:

GENERAL: In regard to the stores to be assigned to traders, as well as other buildings and other property to be rented, I wish to state to you that in order to carry out the idea of General Sherman, of everything being captures of war and belonging as such to the United States, you will collect rents from all traders and others allowed to occupy vacant stores or buildings until such times as the presumed owners thereof satisfy you of their loyalty, and also of their title to the property. No oaths of allegiance must be required or even received until you are satisfied of the entire faithfulness of the person wishing to take the oath. After you are satisfied, and have allowed the person to take the oath of allegiance, you must also allow him to receive the rents of his property. Whatever quartermaster you direct to receive rents or other moneys must be required to keep a separate account of the same as a civil fund and have said account audited monthly by you. The proper expenses to be charged to this fund are repairs of wharves, roads, streets, cleaning streets, steam fire engine, extra clerks, &c. It must not become known that the taking the oath will weigh in favor of the claimants to property, although it will in reality as soon as you are satisfied of the purity of intention of the persons desiring to take it.

Respectfully, yours,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

NEW YORK, *January 24, 1865.*
(Received 2.55 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, U. S. Army:

Arrived here last night from Pittsburg to make arrangements for proceeding with all practicable speed to Savannah. This moment received your dispatch. My division, close upon 6,500 strong, coming up by river to Pittsburg, cannot reach there before Thursday, owing to the ice and deficiency of water transportation at Nashville on arrival of the troops from Chattanooga last Sunday week. First Brigade at Louisville before I left for Pittsburg. Have telegraphed my quartermaster at Pittsburg to secure the necessary transportation to Washington via Harrisburg and Baltimore, instead of to New York, as previously ordered, subject to your instructions. I shall proceed without delay to Baltimore and await the division there.

THOMAS FRANCIS MEAGHER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

PITTSBURG, *January 24, 1865—11.30 a. m.*
(Received 2.20 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

Your telegram to General Meagher has been shown to me.* He left here yesterday. Orders have been given as directed by you. Troops have not arrived and I am unable to say where they are.

O. CROSS,
Colonel and Deputy Quartermaster-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *January 25, 1865—12 noon.*

Brevet Major-General MEIGS, *Quartermaster-General:*

I have received orders to furnish transportation to North Carolina for some 1,500 troops, 300 artillery horses, a pontoon train of 30 boats, including 44 teams—making about 500 animals—and also 350 employés of the railroad, with iron, &c. You will observe that we shall require all the transportation of a suitable character that is here now or that will arrive to-day. I am expecting the Neptune and Warrior, both of which will be required. Should the construction corps at Alexandria call on you for transportation to New Berne for men and material I request you will furnish it.

R. INGALLS,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Pocotaligo, S. C., January 25, 1865.

Col. J. T. CONKLIN,
Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Tennessee:

COLONEL: I have ordered General Logan to move Friday morning, with the wagons loaded, from Beaufort with the portion of his corps there, viz, Hazen's, Woods', and a brigade of John E. Smith's; also Engineer Regiment. Now, if they don't have enough supplies there they can send their supply wagons to Blair's landing and fill up. General Smith (John E.) will draw from Hatch's landing. Don't fear to send up too large a quantity, for Hatch will stay here and can live on what they leave. Thirty days' sugar, coffee, and salt, from fifteen to twenty days' hard bread, what meat we can get in, five days' forage. I mean either that or the nearest approximation. My headquarters will be at Blair's landing. We must leave here all right Monday next (this *sub rosa*).

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No 5. } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 25, 1865.

The following are the instructions of the major-general commanding relative to his staff and headquarters, in view of the coming campaign, viz:

I. The headquarters for the field will be stripped of every article not strictly necessary in the field. Officers' baggage and office furni-

* See p. 119.

ture will be reduced as much as possible, and so arranged as to occupy but little room. Flys will be used for shelter, one tent for office purposes only being allowed. All surplus baggage, boxes, and office furniture will remain with the established headquarters in charge of a proper officer, ready for shipment to a new base, when orders to such effect shall be given. Maj. E. Whittlesey, judge-advocate, is announced as commandant of headquarters in the field, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly. The following-named officers of the staff will accompany and be with the major-general commanding in the field: Col. James Wilson, provost-marshal-general; Col. J. T. Conklin, chief quartermaster; Lieut. Col. William E. Strong, assistant inspector-general; Lieut. Col. D. Remick, chief commissary; Maj. Max. Woodhull, assistant adjutant-general; Maj. T. W. Osborn, chief of artillery; Maj. E. Whittlesey, judge-advocate; Capt. C. B. Reese, chief engineer; Capt. D. H. Buel, chief ordnance officer; Capt. E. P. Pearson, jr., chief commissary of musters; Capt. F. W. Gilbreth, aide-de-camp; Capt. P. A. Taylor, chief signal officer; First Lieut. J. P. Sampson, Signal Corps, U. S. Army; First Lieut. William N. Taylor, First Illinois Light Artillery, acting aide-de-camp; First Lieut. Amos Stickney, Engineer Corps, U. S. Army; First Lieut. John A. Mills, acting assistant quartermaster; Lieut. Joseph A. Sladen, acting assistant adjutant-general; Asst. Surg. D. L. Huntington, U. S. Army, assistant medical director; Actg. Asst. Surg. E. A. Duncan, U. S. Army, staff and escort surgeon.

II. The following-named will remain at the established headquarters: Capt. Samuel L. Taggart, assistant adjutant-general, in charge of office and headquarters; Lieut. Col. W. H. Ross, First Michigan Artillery, in charge of artillery department; Capt. W. C. Ide, Thirteenth Infantry, assistant chief commissary of musters; Actg. Asst. Surg. I. L. Hoover, U. S. Army; First Lieut. L. T. Wilms, Thirty-seventh Ohio Infantry, acting assistant quartermaster.

III. Capt. Samuel L. Taggart, assistant adjutant-general, is authorized to perform all duties pertaining to his office, and to act and sign by order of the major-general commanding in his absence, the same as if he were present.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 23.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., January 25, 1865.

* * * * * * *

III. The Twenty-ninth Missouri Mounted Infantry and detachment of the Seventh Illinois Mounted Infantry, now in camp near this point, will forthwith proceed to Pocotaligo and report to Major-General Blair, commanding Seventeenth Army Corps, for duty until the corps to which they belong joins the army in the field.

* * * * * * *

IX. Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, commanding Fifteenth Army Corps, will on Friday morning, the 27th instant, move such portion of his command as may then be at this point, with wagons loaded with as much forage and subsistence as can be obtained, to Garden's Corners, where he will report to the major-general commanding for further orders.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Pocotaligo Landing, S. C., January 25, 1865.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. W. B. WOODS,
Commanding Brigade, Garden's Corners:

GENERAL: Reconnaissances are being made toward Salkehatchie, and it is important that you should keep up the movement from Garden's Corners. Continue it until further orders. If you can procure boats you will make an effort to cross at or near Combahee Ferry, but the general does not wish it done at the loss of life. It is merely to attract the enemy's attention.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

JOS. A. SLADEN,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 25, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division, Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you cause two regiments from your command to report at the railroad depot at daylight to-morrow. Captain Henley, aide-de-camp, will take them to the point they are expected to occupy. General Mower will endeavor to cross the Salkehatchie above the bridge, and these regiments are intended to cover certain roads in his rear. Send with them one wagon of ammunition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 25, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. SMITH,
Commanding Fourth Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you send one brigade from your command to Salkehatchie bridge, starting at 7 a. m. to-morrow, with instructions to make a demonstration against the enemy at that point and feign an attempt to force a crossing, so as to draw their attention from General Mower's attempt at crossing above. The general wishes the skirmish line pushed up as close to the river as possible, but care must be taken to prevent loss. He wishes the position taken intrenched and held until your brigade is relieved by forces from General Hatch's command. Should General Mower's movements cause the enemy to evacuate, your brigade will push across and occupy the works.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING,
Savannah, Ga., January 25, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

DEAR GENERAL: Your letter of yesterday has just come to hand. I ordered Davis yesterday to resume his march this morning at daylight, and directed Williams to push a division, if possible, from Purysburg toward the ferry. These orders are now being executed. Davis has gone with Morgan's division. I shall order Geary forward to-morrow, and shall advise Corse to move at the same time on one of the other roads. I shall send my headquarters teams with Geary's division and go up the river on one of the transports. This will give me an opportunity to stop at Purysburg and give whatever new orders may be necessary; also to see the gun-boat and send it above the ferry. I shall probably arrive at Sister's Ferry as soon as the head of Davis' column can reach there. I shall hear from Davis this evening as to the progress made to-day, and will write you again before leaving here.

Very respectfully, &c.,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 25, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. W. GEARY,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding the corps directs that you move with your command, to-morrow morning, for Sister's Ferry, following the Fourteenth Corps. You can march on either of the roads, selecting the best. The general directs that you take charge of all the trains of the corps now on this side of the river, and march them with your column. The Fourteenth Corps starts to-day, and will march on three roads. Upon arriving at Sister's Ferry you will cross your command and rejoin the corps.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 2.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 25, 1865.

This command will move to-morrow at 8 a. m. Further instructions will be issued this afternoon.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary:

W. T. FORBES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 25, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. GROVER,
Commanding, &c., Savannah, Ga.:

GENERAL: The provisions, &c., sent on the Greyhound and Daniel Webster should be received and turned over to the mayor, Mr. Arnold,

and facilities, &c., afforded in getting the vessels to the dock. There are some private goods on both these vessels which I am willing to have landed and sold at Savannah. The persons owning them have given the freight of the provisions for the poor of Savannah.

Respectfully, yours,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, January 25, 1865.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Willard's Hotel:

GENERAL: Your corps will embark at Alexandria as rapidly as transports can be prepared. The first division will proceed to the vicinity of Wilmington, N. C., landing at Federal Point or up Cape Fear River, as may be deemed best on their arrival. The second division will proceed to Beaufort, landing at that place, unless orders to the contrary are received there. The remainder will touch at Fort Monroe for orders, and are expected to land near Wilmington or Beaufort, as General Grant may direct. General Meagher's provisional division will be ordered to report to you till it can join General Sherman.

Very respectfully,

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 25, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Warren, Ohio:

The commanding-general directs that you report in person without delay for duty with your command.

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD DEPOT,
Washington, D. C., January 25, 1865. (Received 10.16 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

First train ot troops arrived about 3 this a. m. and was run direct to Alexandria. The cars have been returned, and are now on the way west. Two trains are east of Monocacy, one having passed that point at 7.35 and one at 8.08 this a. m.

GEO. S. KOONTZ.

BALTIMORE AND OHIO DEPOT,
Washington, D. C., January 25, 1865. (Received 10.35 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Second train of troops arrived at 7.15, third train at 7.20, and fourth at 7.30. They have been started for Alexandria.

G. S. KOONTZ.

NEW YORK, *January 25, 1865.*
(Received 10.25 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK:

I arrived here last evening.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

NEW YORK, *January 26, 1865.*
(Received 12 m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Just arrived after a rough passage on steamer Monterey. Could not land at Cape Fear. Left Savannah 19th, Port Royal 22d. Wet and stormy weather. General Sherman still at Savannah. Cotton being shipped at rate of 800 to 1,000 bales per day. Treasury and War Departments working smoothly and harmoniously.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Pocotaligo, S. C., January 26, 1865.

Maj. Gen. O. O. HOWARD,
Commanding Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: General Mower is still maneuvering against the Salkehatchie bridge and it is important the movement from Garden's Corners should be kept up. Continue it until you receive further orders. If boats can be obtained, let an effort be made to cross, but I do not wish it done at the risk of loss of life—merely to attract the enemy's attention.

Your obedient servant,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 17. } *Beaufort, S. C., January 26, 1865.*

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III. The Second and Third Brigades of this division will move from their present camp toward Garden's Corners at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning, the brigade and regimental teams following in rear of their respective brigades. The division train, under direction of the officers in the quartermaster's and ordnance departments, will follow the division to Garden's Corners, the wagons loaded with all the forage and supplies that can be taken.

IV. Brigade commanders will send into Beaufort forthwith all baggage, boxes, &c., to be left in accordance with orders from department headquarters to be stored with the post quartermaster, who is ready to give memorandum receipts for such property as may be left under his control.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. Woods:

FRED. H. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
Near Beaufort, S. C., January 26, 1865.

Capt. S. M. BUDLONG,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I am here with my command under orders from Major-General Logan to report to Brevet Major-General Smith, at Pocotaligo. Have wagons and baggage of brigade, also ambulances and wagons left behind of Third Division, but no teams. Transportation could not be furnished for them when I came. Lieutenant Gorgas is behind with detail to bring them forward as soon as possible. Lieutenant Gorgas will endeavor also to bring up the wagons of train that were abandoned in the march at Savannah.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. McCOWN,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 26, 1865.

Col. F. J. HURLBUT,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that you move out with your entire command on the road designated and in accordance with the instructions sent you yesterday. The general desires that you inspect and thoroughly repair the road as far as you move, so that the supply trains can move without impediment. You will move eight or not to exceed ten miles and await there the arrival of the division, when you will take the advance, with such instructions as will be given you hereafter. The general wishes you to move by 8 a. m. to-morrow, the 27th instant, irrespective of the Twentieth Corps. A staff officer from these headquarters will accompany you to designate the route.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. H. EVERTS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 23. } *Pocotaligo, S. C., January 26, 1865.*

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II. The extra baggage, tents, &c., of this command will be sent to the wharf on Pocotaligo River to-morrow, for shipment to Hilton Head, instead of being taken to Beaufort, as ordered in Special Orders, No. 23, of this date. Lieut. William E. Ware, acting assistant adjutant-general, Seventeenth Army Corps, will have charge of the storing and direction of the future movements of the baggage.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SAVANNAH, GA., *January 26, 1865—8 p. m.*

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

DEAR GENERAL: Davis made a good march yesterday and found the roads in fair condition. I have heard nothing from Williams. I

leave here on transport to-morrow morning and shall stop at Purysburg. I think we shall be at Sister's Ferry on the day mentioned in your letter—the 29th.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Springfield, Ga., January 26, 1865—11.15 a. m.

Lieut. Col. A. C. MCCLURG,
Asst. Adjt. Gen. and Chief of Staff, Fourteenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: The head of my division passing through Springfield. I shall move about a mile to the first good camping ground. I hear nothing from General Baird. Iverson's cavalry are said to be seven miles from here. A few of the enemy's pickets have been struck. I await further orders. Road about Ebenezer Creek is bad; from there to this point, good.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES D. MORGAN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Savannah, Ga., January 26, 1865.

Brevet Major-General GEARY,
Commanding Second Division, Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you start your command to-morrow morning to Sister's Ferry. He directs that you take charge of and conduct to that place all trains of the Twentieth Corps now here. Captain Whittelsey, acting chief quartermaster, will be instructed to report to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 3.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 26, 1865.

This command will move at 8 a. m. to-morrow. Order of brigades: First, Second, Third. Knap's battery will follow the Second Brigade.

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By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary:

W. T. FORBES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

POCOTALIGO RIVER, *January 26, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I went over the defenses at Pocotaligo to-day, and waited as long as I could on account of the falling tide in hopes of seeing you. I wished to ask you if you would not consider the advisability of

vacating the intrenched camp that you have ordered to be established after you have passed so far on your march as to have entirely cut loose from any connection by the way of Pocotaligo. The force to hold such a camp will require to be larger than I at first supposed—say 3,000 men—while if the object be to secure debouching avenues it will be defeated, probably, by the enemy by his blocking the roads at defiles or other good defensible points. I would respectfully suggest that the force be retained in such a position only until a positive result has been obtained from your march and you are entirely beyond Columbia. Then, if Charleston be taken, to allow the force to guard the railroad for our future use; but if that city does not fall, to have this force destroy this road as far as possible and then retire to Port Royal Island, to be used in attacks, as at Bull's Bay and Georgetown, or other places that have to be assailed as demonstrations. I beg that you will pardon me for my suggestions. I only desire to make myself as useful as possible, and therefore to have available as large a force as possible.

With great respect, very truly, yours,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General of Volunteers.

P. S.—We found only seven inches in Pocotaligo Creek at low tide.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Washington, D. C., January 26, 1865.

The corps will embark at Alexandria as soon as practicable and move as follows, viz, the Third Division, Major-General Cox commanding, will embark first and move at once to the vicinity of Wilmington, N. C., landing at Federal Point or higher up the river, as may be found expedient. The Second Division, Major-General Couch commanding, will move to Beaufort and land there unless contrary orders be received at that place. The First Division, Brigadier-General Ruger commanding, will touch at Fortress Monroe for orders from the major-general commanding or Lieutenant-General Grant. It is expected the division will go to Beaufort or Wilmington. Lieutenant-Colonel Boyd, chief quartermaster, will confer with Brigadier-General Rucker, assistant chief quartermaster, in reference to transportation, and inform the division commanders, who are charged with the execution of this order.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

BALTIMORE AND OHIO DEPOT,
January 26, 1865. (Received 8.20 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Fifth train of troops arrived at 5 o'clock, and the sixth train at 7 o'clock this p. m. Troops unloaded and put in barracks.

G. S. KOONTZ.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Pocotaligo, S. C., January 27, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: We had heavy and continuous rains up to and including the 24th instant, causing all the rivers, the Savannah included, to over-

flow their banks, and making the roads simply impassable. I came up to this point on the 25th, and with the troops here, Seventeenth Corps, have been demonstrating against the Salkehatchie, but that stream is out of its banks and we cannot cross. I only aim to drive the enemy over toward Edisto, a little farther from our flank, when I move against the Charleston and Augusta road. I have in person reconnoitered the ground from Salkehatchie bridge back to Coosawhatchie, and find the country very low and intersected by creeks and points of salt marsh, making roads very bad, but I am pushing to get the Right Wing here, and have official notice from General Slocum that he had the Twentieth Corps, General Williams, on this side the Savannah at Purysburg, and on the 25th the Fourteenth Corps, General Davis, would resume his march from Cherokee Hill, ten miles out of Savannah, where he was caught by the rain-storm, so that I expect to hear of the Left Wing and cavalry reaching Sister's Ferry to-morrow. A gunboat and fleet of transports will attend the Left Wing up the Savannah River, and General Slocum is ordered to replenish his wagons, rendezvous at Robertsville, and report his readiness to me.

I expect on Monday or Tuesday next, viz, February 1, to be all ready, when I will move rapidly up toward Barnwell and wheel to the right on the railroad at Midway, leaving Branchville to the right; after destroying that road I will move on Orangeburg, and so on to Columbia, avoiding any works the enemy may construct in my path, and forcing him to fight me in open ground, if he risk battle. I will use Hatch's division, of Foster's command (4,000), to cover my movement by posting it between this and Salkehatchie bridge. You will note that our position is now nearer Branchville than from Charleston. I get a few deserters and have made some prisoners, who report cavalry only between me and Barnwell and infantry between me and Charleston.

Of course, I shall keep up the delusion of an attack on Charleston always, and have instructed General Foster to watch the harbor close from Morris Island, and when he hears of my being on the railroad near Branchville to make a landing at Bull's Bay, and occupy the Georgetown road, twenty-four miles east of Charleston. Admiral Dahlgren will also keep up the demonstration on Charleston. My chief difficulty will be to supply my army, but on this point I must risk a good deal, based upon the idea that where other people live we can, even if they have to starve or move away.

Weather is now cold and clear. I will write again.

I am, with respect, &c.,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Pocotaligo, S. C., January 27, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: In making up our list for brevets in Savannah I am satisfied we did an act of injustice to a most worthy brigade commander, Colonel Este, of an Ohio regiment, whose name and credentials you will find in the list accompanying the official reports. I would respectfully urge that he be brevetted brigadier-general on a perfect footing with those made by the Secretary of War at Savannah. I am afraid the lists are made so extensive that the Army will be over-burdened

with brevets, and would infinitely prefer that vacancies be created by mustering out absentees and giving the real rank to the worthy men actually present on duty.

I am, &c.,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Pocotaligo, January 27, 1865. (Received 29th.)

Admiral DAHLGREN, *Commanding South Atlantic Squadron:*

DEAR ADMIRAL: I have now reconnoitered all the country from the Salkehatchie bridge back to and including Coosawhatchie. The enemy had fortified every path leading from the various landings to the railroad, and could have bothered us a good deal had we not got Pocotaligo in the way we did by the several diversions and the quick, prompt attack. From here we will find no trouble in getting an offing.

I have official reports that Slocum got off for Sister's Ferry on the 25th, and he should be there to morrow.

It will take him till Monday or Tuesday to cross over, load his wagons, and rendezvous at Robertsville, when we will be off. I hope this cold, clear weather will last for that time, as the roads here would cut to the hub after an hour's rain.

I have been feeling the Combahee Ferry and also at the bridge, but the river is over its banks and fills the swamps for a mile back, too deep at points to wade and too shallow at others to use boats. I can only see a few rebels on the other bank, but a prisoner captured says there is a brigade back a short distance and a considerable force about Green Pond, ten miles east of this. We find no enemy this side of the Salkehatchie, except cavalry, which is simply watching us, but I will clear it away in a hurry when we are ready to move. I will be sure to let you know the moment we are off, and will leave Hatch's division, of Foster's command, here to cover our movement.

I am, with great respect, yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Pocotaligo, S. C., January 27, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: General Logan moved one division (Hazen's) to the vicinity of Port Royal Ferry and another (General Woods') to Garden's Corners. Supplies had not arrived at Beaufort in sufficient quantity to fill the wagons when the divisions left. Hazen's transportation, however, is still at Beaufort, and I understand that supplies have arrived, so that he will be able to fill up. General Logan says that General Easton would not allow him boats, so that there are some 600 mules not yet over. General Slocum had not left Savannah yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Corse will follow Geary's division. I perceive by General Foster's note that we will have plenty of supplies now. General Logan was here in person this afternoon.

Very respectfully, yours,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. AND ARMY OF THE TENN.,
No. 2. } *Beaufort, S. C., January 27, 1865.*

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III. The First Regiment Engineers Missouri Volunteers, Lieut. Col. William Tweeddale commanding, having arrived at this point, will, as soon as its transportation can be made ready, proceed to Blair's landing on Pocotaligo River, and encamp as near thereto as practicable, reporting arrival to Capt. C. B. Reese, chief engineer.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 27. } *Beaufort, S. C., January 27, 1865.*

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V. Headquarters Fifteenth Army Corps is hereby established at Beaufort, S. C. Capt. H. N. Wheeler, assistant adjutant-general, U. S. Volunteers, is assigned as in charge. All office desks and records not taken with the command in the field will be left in his charge. Captain Wheeler with headquarters will rejoin the corps at such points as may be hereafter designated.

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By command of Maj. Gen. John A. Logan:

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV.,
FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 1. } *Beaufort, S. C., January 27, 1865.*

In compliance with Special Orders, No. 26, of date January 26, 1865, from headquarters Fifteenth Army Corps, the undersigned hereby assumes command of the First Brigade, Third Division, Fifteenth Army Corps. Your general congratulates himself on his assignment to troops whose discipline is so marked, whose valor has been so well tried, and who have won by heroic deeds so brilliant a name in the history of this war. Your career is well known to him. He was an eyewitness to your proud achievements at Jackson, Champion's Hill, and Vicksburg. At Mission Ridge, Allatoona, and Resaca you nobly sustained your title as heroes of the Army of the Tennessee. It was our division, which, under its gallant commander, by sleepless vigilance and determined bravery, preserved intact our long line of communication during the tedious, bloody, but at last triumphant campaign of Atlanta. Let us not abate our ardor. The end of the conflict is near. Let us be found at the final victory in the foremost ranks of the friends of truth, justice, and constitutional liberty, the champions and vindicators of an American nationality.

WM. T. CLARK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 1.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Savannah, Ga., January 27, 1865.

The First and Second Brigades of this division will march at 7 a. m. to-morrow, the 28th instant, the men carrying three days' rations in haversacks, in the following order, taking the Louisville pike, viz:

I. First Brigade Infantry, Brigadier-General Rice commanding, with Battery H, First Missouri Light Artillery, in the center of his command and throwing one regiment in rear of the ordnance train.

II. Trains in following order: First, ambulance; second, ordnance; third, brigade trains; fourth, division supply trains.

III. Second Brigade Infantry, Colonel Adams commanding, which will form the rear of the column and keep well closed up. In setting forth on another long and arduous campaign the general commanding desires to impress upon all commanding officers the necessity of husbanding and using the utmost economy in regard to supplies, as the country through which we are to pass will afford but little if any of the necessities of an army, either provisions or animals, and he trusts that the experience of the veteran and tried troops of this command, who have become so familiar with the marches and fatigues of the field, will be sufficient to restrain them from a wanton waste of anything which may be necessary to secure their comfort and ultimate success.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Springfield, Ga., January 27, 1865.

Brig. Gen. J. D. MORGAN,
Commanding Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Colonel Moore, commanding the pontoniers, is now at work bridging Ebenezer Creek. He expects to have it finished so that your remaining wagons can cross soon after daylight. The general commanding directs that you delay your column until you can close up these wagons and then at once push forward to the ferry. He desires you to encamp upon the Augusta road, on the first favorable ground, at least one mile above Sister's Ferry, establishing your line facing northward, your right resting on or near the Savannah River.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. MCCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
January 27, 1865—3 p. m.

Lieut. Col. A. C. MCCLURG,
Asst. Adjt. Gen. and Chief of Staff, Fourteenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: My division in camp five miles from Sister's Ferry. Road first rate from the creek to this point and two miles beyond, having been out that far, and said to be good to the river. One of our gunboats at the ferry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES D. MORGAN,
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 4. } HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS, *Monteith Station, Ga., January 27, 1865.*

This command will march at 6 a. m. to-morrow. Order of brigades: Second, Third, First. Sloan's battery will follow the Second Brigade in line. * * *

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary:

W. T. FORBES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Purysburg, S. C., January 27, 1865.

Brig. Gen. W. T. WARD, *Commanding Third Division:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding the corps directs that you move your command day after to-morrow morning as early as possible up the causeway as far as Bradham's house, halting there unless you receive further orders. He also directs that you leave all surplus stores, after loading all your wagons at this place, and also that you leave one regiment to guard the surplus commissary stores that will be left here in charge of Lieutenant Harbert, acting commissary. The general directs that you start from here with your wagons filled with stores and with three days' full rations in the men's haversacks.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 27, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi, Pocotaligo:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that Admiral Dahlgren informs me that in obedience to your request, by telegram, he has sent the following vessels to make the demonstrations requested by you, viz: To the Combahee River, the gun-boat Dai Ching and one armed tug; to the South Edisto, the Pawnee and one armed tug; to the North Edisto, the Sonoma; to the Stono, the Wissahickon, the McDonough, and two mortar schooners. In addition, I have directed General Potter to proceed to Edisto Island, and with the Thirty-second U. S. Colored Troops, already landed there, to make a strong demonstration toward Willstown, on the South Edisto River, co-operating with the navy. I will, if required, re-enforce him as far as necessary. The enemy have always kept a force at Willstown guarding the roads to Adams' Run and Jacksonborough.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN DISTRICT,
DEPT. OF THE SOUTH, FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Morris Island, S. C., January 27, 1865.

Capt. G. H. SCOTT, *Comdg. Blockading Fleet off Charleston:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inform you that eight deserters from the Confederate navy came in last night from Charleston Harbor.

They possess valuable information regarding the laying down of torpedoes, and connected with the sinking of the monitor Patapsco. They are at your disposal when it suits your convenience.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 27, 1865.

Brig. Gen. E. E. POTTER,
Commanding District of Beaufort:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to put in writing the verbal instructions given to you by him in person. You will proceed at once to Edisto Island, and with the military force there demonstrate strongly against the enemy in co-operation with the navy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 44.

HEADQUARTERS COAST DIVISION,
DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Deveaux's Neck, S. C., January 27, 1865.

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II. The Second Brigade, Col. E. N. Hallowell, will move to-morrow as soon after daylight as possible to a new position near Pocotaligo. The men will carry in their knapsacks and haversacks five days' rations. All property belonging to the brigade that cannot be readily carried by the troops will be left in camp under a small guard and will be shipped to Hilton Head, S. C., for storage. Two wagons will report to Colonel Hallowell for transportation of the necessary baggage of the brigade and headquarters to its new camp.

III. The Artillery Brigade will move to-morrow morning in rear of the Second Brigade to a new position near Pocotaligo, which will be designated. Five days' rations and as much forage as can be carried on the carriages will be taken. Cannoneers will march. One wagon will be ordered to report for transportation of the actually necessary baggage and forage. A small guard will be left to move and ship to Hilton Head, S. C., such property as cannot be transported.

IV. The First Brigade, with the exception of the Fifty-sixth New York Volunteers, stationed at Coosawhatchie, will move as early as possible on the morning of the 29th to a position to be designated near Pocotaligo. Five days' rations will be carried by the men in their haversacks and knapsacks. Two wagons will report to brigade headquarters to-morrow evening for transportation of the necessary baggage. All heavy baggage will be sent to-morrow to the landing to be shipped to Hilton Head for storage.

V. The cavalry will move to-morrow at an early hour. Three days' rations and forage will be carried. One wagon will report to the cavalry for transportation of forage and necessary heavy baggage.

VI. In the new movement brigade commanders will be allowed to transport two wall tents each. No other tents except shelter-tents will be allowed in the command.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. DIST. OF FLORIDA, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
FOURTH SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Jacksonville, Fla., January 27, 1865.

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant General, Department of the South:

CAPTAIN: Yesterday I went up the Saint John's fifteen miles on the steamer Hale. On my return I was informed that a small party, some forty men, were sent out by Colonel Tilghman to bring in a family and household goods, and hoping to capture a rebel soldier lurking about the neighborhood of the house to which the party was sent. Colonel Tilghman's report is forwarded with the report of the officer commanding the party. Probably more of the squad will come in, but still there is enough of the disaster to give some force to the application made for cavalry in this district. As such application was approved by the general commanding the department, I trust they may be sent without delay. There are so many facilities for giving information of our slightest movements to the enemy, that, without horses to make rapid movements possible, we are subject to such petty disgraces at any time.

I visited Saint Augustine on Sunday last. I found the command in as good condition as I expected, but that was anything but satisfactory. Colonel Wilcoxson's report will exhibit the necessity for additional force. I can only renew my application for more troops. Two regiments of cavalry and one of infantry, with a light battery, ought to be sent here as soon as practicable. With such a force I could, I believe, clean this part of Florida of all rebel forces immediately.

Very respectfully, &c.,

E. P. SCAMMON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON DEPOT, *January 27, 1865.*
(Received 11.55 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Seventh train of troops arrived at 7 this a. m.

GEO. S. KOONTZ.

WASHINGTON DEPOT, *January 27, 1865.*
(Received 4 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Eighth train of troops arrived at 2, and ninth at 2.30, this p. m.

G. S. KOONTZ.

FLAG-SHIP MALVERN,
Cape Fear River, N. C., January 28, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

DEAR GENERAL: I don't know that this will reach you for some time, but I write at a venture. We have settled down at Fort Fisher and have almost forgotten that it ever belonged to the rebels. We don't propose to do anything more, but hold on for you to come here and bag these fellows. They are working like beavers at their forts on the river. They hold some heavy positions and have some fifty guns

at different points to keep us out. I have no doubt I could go up when I please, but there is no object in doing so. The rebels would only burn and destroy everything, and after their panic is over they may think it best to save the cotton until your coming, which at present they know nothing about. In the meantime I am maneuvering to make them believe we are going to attack them, and keep them on the alert, adding to present works and building others. We have a strong double line of defense across the neck, where stands Fort Fisher. This line is three miles from the fort and protected by about thirty gun-boats, with heavy guns. Bragg talks of retaking the fort. I hope he may try it. I have made arrangements for your transports, when they come here, to go to Smithville and await your coming in. In case the Cape Fear River is obstructed (which it is) you can immediately get supplies from Smithville. There is a good road leading out to about where you will come in. General Grant said he would send provisions for you to Beaufort, N. C. I keep vessels there, and have directed the officer in command to have them ready to send here at a moment's notice. They can be here in twenty-four hours from the time I send for them. There will be enough here for a small portion of your troops. I have dispatch-boats along the coast to bring tidings of your approach, and there is one at Georgetown, where I suppose some of your folks will drop in to tea.

I think the rebels are fortifying between this and Wilmington, thinking that Terry is going to advance, and they have assembled here, all told, about 10,000 men, all of whom you will gobble up (together with their artillery) when you come. The chart, on tracing paper, which I sent you, is correct up to the 1st of this month. We are having dreadful cold weather here. I hope you don't feel it, although your boys don't mind it much.

Hoping soon to see you along this way, when I will stop to shake hands with you, and then take a run home for a few days, I remain, sincerely and truly yours.

DAVID D. PORTER.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 45. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, January 28, 1865.*

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32. By direction of the President, Bvt. Col. O. M. Poe, U. S. Army, is hereby assigned to duty, with pay and emoluments according to his brevet rank, from January 13, 1865.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Pocotaligo, January 28, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: Yours of yesterday came at night. If Easton did not give vessels to carry Logan's mules it was for a most excellent reason—that he did not have them. Slocum reports that he had ordered Davis to move on the 25th, and he should reach Sister's Ferry to-day; the rear can close on him whilst he lays his bridge. Slocum was to go

by river so as to meet Davis and Williams there. I confide in his energy and judgment to get his command across by Monday. You may now let Foster's troops occupy the old fort at Pocotaligo bridge, where the Charleston and Savannah turnpike road crosses. They will also hold Coosawhatchie fort, but the main body moves to-day to a camp covering the Salkehatchie bridge, prepared to fall back on Pocotaligo fort and the works at the depot now occupied by Mower and Leggett. You may now move your two corps to points in front, north of the railroad, and be ready to march by all the roads leading north between the Coosawhatchie and Salkehatchie, with your wagons to close up the moment they are loaded. Roads are now comparatively good. Giles Smith's division should make room for Hatch, but Mower and Leggett can start from their present camps.

The Fifteenth Corps should take position to the left or right front, according to your intention of giving one or the other the right of your movement. You will have to get nearly up to Barnwell before turning toward Midway. The point marked Heywardsville looks like a good point for the Fifteenth Corps and could be reached from the position of John E. Smith's camp. Giles Smith could move to the point about four miles north and west of the Salkehatchie bridge, when you would have your two corps all ready to move by separate roads, viz, one following substantially the Salkehatchie and the other the Coosawhatchie, leaving Corse to make his junction as arranged at Hickory Hill. Hatch can supply his command by boats altogether, so as not to occupy our road at all. You had better begin this movement to-morrow.

I am, sir,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Pocotaligo, January 28, 1865—12 m.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: Your note just received. I have given all my officers to understand that they would not move till Monday, and there is some little shortness of clothing that I was hoping to get distributed in the present camps. If you will permit me I think I can accomplish your wishes, limiting the movement simply to General Giles A. Smith's division. General John E. Smith's brigade at Beaufort, I think, will get closed up to-day, but I fear not before to-morrow night. I had intended, with your sanction, to move the Seventeenth Corps by the right-hand road, and the Fifteenth by roads to the left of it. Will it be practicable to cross the Salkehatchie before reaching Walker's or Rivers' Bridge? I mean by the right corps.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Pocotaligo, January 28, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: The modifications you suggest in my general directions are approved, and the movements ordered for to-morrow will be deferred

to Monday, provided the weather does not change. You should push matters now that weather is fair, and better leave behind those who are not ready, as do what you may some will not be ready. You cannot count on crossing Salkehatchie till you are in Barnwell District, nor is it advisable. Your right flank should aim for Midway and Columbia.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 3. } HDQRS. DEPT. AND ARMY OF THE TENN., *Beaufort, S. C., January 28, 1865.*

I. Maj.. C. J. Stolbrand, Second Regiment Illinois Light Artillery Volunteers, is at his own request relieved from further duty as chief of artillery, Fifteenth Army Corps, and his term of service (three years in present grade) having expired he will forthwith proceed to Springfield, Ill., to arrange and close his business with the Government, preparatory to muster out of the service. Quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

* * * * * * *

VI. Lieut. Col. William H. Ross, First Michigan Light Artillery, is relieved from further duty at these headquarters, and assigned as chief of artillery, Fifteenth Army Corps, vice Major Stolbrand relieved, and will forthwith report to Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, commanding corps.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 25. } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE, *Near Pocotaligo, S. C., January 28, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

II. The following preliminary movements will take place to-morrow:

1. The division of General Giles A. Smith will move toward the road which runs along the west bank of the Salkehatchie and encamp preparatory to a forward movement on that road Monday morning. All wagons of the Seventeenth Corps will be so moved and parked as to leave the road from Pocotaligo to McPhersonville clear for the Fifteenth Army Corps by 9 a. m. Monday. The bridge train will move to-morrow, following General Giles A. Smith, and encamp in rear of him.

2. Movement for Monday: The Seventeenth Corps, Major-General Blair, will commence the forward movement by 7 a. m., ascending the Salkehatchie on the west bank, making if possible fifteen miles from Pocotaligo. The Fifteenth Corps, Maj. Gen. J. A. Logan, will move forward to Heywardsville, moving General John E. Smith's division by the Ridge road between the Pocotaligo and the Tullifinny, if practicable. Department headquarters will follow the leading division of the Seventeenth Army Corps. Whenever it is practicable corps commanders will subdivide their columns, moving on parallel roads, particularly when not in the presence of a large force; and after the leading division on a road has taken up a strong position for the night the succeeding divisions need not close up to nearer than two miles

interval for each. The corps commanders will deviate from this whenever the presence of a large force or other apparent necessity may require it. Particular pains will be taken to organize foraging parties for each brigade, battery, headquarters, and detachment, not to exceed in numbers an absolute necessity. A more uniform system of distribution of forage and rations than was had during the last campaign must be secured, and every possible economy in the issue of hard bread is demanded. The Engineer Regiment, after reaching Garden's Corners, will take right-hand road and will follow the Seventeenth Corps. The bridge train will be kept with the Seventeenth Corps for the present.

* * * * * * *

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

JOS. A. SLADEN,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 9. } *Garden's Corners, S. C., January 28, 1865.*

The following-named officers are hereby announced as on the staff of the major-general commanding, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly: Lieut. Col. L. E. Yorke, assistant inspector-general and chief of staff; Maj. Max. Woodhull, assistant adjutant-general; Lieut. Col. G. L. Fort, chief quartermaster; Lieut. Col. C. C. Carpenter, chief commissary of subsistence; Maj. R. Niccolls, medical director; Maj. J. M. Woodworth, medical inspector; Maj. F. C. Gillette, provost-marshal; Capt. J. S. Hoover, senior aide-de-camp; Capt. William B. Pratt, aide-de-camp; Lieut. L. B. Mitchell, aide-de-camp and chief ordnance officer; Maj. A. C. Perry, acting aide-de-camp; Capt. F. F. Whitehead, assistant adjutant-general, U. S. Volunteers, aide-de-camp; Capt. H. Klostermann, chief engineer.

By command of Maj. Gen. John A. Logan:

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Port Royal Ferry, January 28, 1865—3 p. m.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS:

I inclose a note just received from Colonel Remick, chief commissary of subsistence of department. My reconnoitering party on the roads leading to Blair's landing reports that before a loaded train can be taken over it as much work will be necessary as has been done between this point and Beaufort. My own opinion coincides with Colonel Remick's, that my trains should be loaded at Beaufort, both on the score of economy of time and availability of roads, which are now perfectly serviceable for loaded trains from Beaufort to Garden's Corners. Not a moment shall be lost in loading the stores. Could anything be gained in already commencing the repairs of the roads beyond that point?

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
OFFICE OF CHIEF COMMISSARY,
Pocotaligo, January 28, 1865.

Major-General HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

DEAR GENERAL: Captain Galvin was here to know how many stores, &c., you can get from this landing. I intend to have enough here for all. I have now 150,000 rations for the Fifteenth Army Corps, and will probably have more this afternoon, but at the same time if I were in your place I would load up my train to its full capacity at Beaufort, as follows: Thirty days' sugar and coffee, twelve to twenty days' hard bread, two to four days' salt meat, thirty to forty days' salt, and all beef-cattle that can be obtained at Beaufort, and then if you have empty wagons (made so by issue) when you get up here I will load them here for you. A large lot of stores went to Beaufort yesterday with orders to furnish your troops all they wanted.

I have the honor to be, yours, truly, &c.,

D. REMICK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief Commissary of Subsistence.

Please say to Colonel Carpenter to do the same with all the trains of the Fifteenth Army Corps at or near Beaufort, as this letter advises you to do, and oblige,

D. R.

Copy sent to Colonel Carpenter.

W. B. H[AZEN].

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 2.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Old Eden, Ga., January 28, 1865.

I. This command will march at 6 a. m. to-morrow, the 29th instant, on the Springfield road, via Springfield, in the following order:

First. Second Brigade Infantry, Colonel Adams commanding, with Battery H, First Missouri Light Artillery, following his second regiment.

Second. Third Brigade Infantry, Colonel Hurlbut commanding.

Third. Trains as follows: First, ambulance; second, ordnance; third, brigade trains in the order of their brigades, respectively; fourth, supply trains of the division.

Fourth. First Brigade Infantry, General Rice commanding.

Colonel Adams will supply one of his regiments with spades and axes and push it forward to prepare the roads for trains. Colonel Hurlbut will throw one regiment in rear of the ordnance train. The command will move out promptly at the hour designated.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 25.

HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 28, 1865.

In accordance with Special Field Orders, No. 25, extract II, department headquarters, this date, Bvt. Maj. Gen. Giles A. Smith will move

his command at 11 a. m. to-morrow to a point on the north side of the railroad on the road running along the west bank of the Salkehatchie River.

Maj. Gen. Joseph A. Mower and Brig. Gen. M. F. Force will to-morrow cause their trains to be parked on the north side of the railroad and east side of the McPhersonville road so as to leave the last-named road clear for the Fifteenth Corps on Monday morning.

Further directions for the movements of this command will be given to-morrow.

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By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 9. } HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS, *Pocotaligo, S. C., January 28, 1865.*

I. The movement contemplated for Monday, the 30th instant, will commence to-morrow. This division will move at 1 p. m. Sunday, the 29th instant, about five miles on the road running parallel to and west of the Salkehatchie River.

II. Brig. Gen. W. W. Belknap, commanding Third Brigade, will have the advance. He will move up the Eleventh and Thirteenth [Iowa] Regiments in the forenoon. The Sixteenth [Iowa] has already been ordered to report in the morning.

III. Until further orders regimental and headquarters trains will follow their respective brigades, ambulances their regiments, and division headquarters train the headquarters train of the leading brigade; the pioneer train between the brigades; the supply train in the rear of the division; the First Minnesota Battery in advance of the rear regiment of the leading brigade.

By order of Brig. Gen. Giles A. Smith:

AD. WARE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Pocotaligo Depot, January 28, 1865.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Right [Left] Wing:

GENERAL: General Williams reports to me to-day from Purysburg that you have passed up the Savannah River to Sister's Ferry and therefore I infer you will be there, and that Davis can get out to Robertsville by Monday. On that day Howard will have the Fifteenth Corps at McPhersonville and the Seventeenth at a point north of the Salkehatchie bridge ready to start the moment you are ready. Remember that every day's delay takes away one day's rations from Howard, and, if possible, be all ready to start on Tuesday from Robertsville.

The Fifteenth Corps will keep along the east of Coosawhatchie, the Seventeenth along the Salkehatchie, and will cross it at Rivers' Bridge, in Barnwell District.

The order of march and general orders will be the same as on the Georgia march. Until we reach the Charleston and Augusta road I want the most rapid possible movement—Kilpatrick to keep to your

left front. Corse should cross to your rear to Hickory Hill and fall in with his corps there. Work hard to load your wagons, and report to me here at Pocotaligo Depot your readiness to move on Tuesday if possible. I think you can find two or more good roads and these will improve as we go north, unless the weather changes. It is very important that we hurry to our first point before Hood gets across and makes junction about Columbia.

If you are all ready on Tuesday you may act on the supposition that Howard is equally so.

Let Kilpatrick see this letter. I will shift over to see you, up about the edge of Barnwell District.

I am, &c.,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Purysburg, S. C., January 28, 1865.

Major DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Georgia:

MAJOR: In compliance with request of Major-General Slocum, I have the honor to report that two divisions of the Twentieth Corps on this side of the river have reached, with the head of the column, the crossing of Cypress Swamp, where a bridge about seventy-five feet long has been destroyed. This will be repaired to-day and we shall reach Sister's Ferry to-morrow. We find as yet nothing but scouting parties of the enemy. The roads are all obstructed by felled timber. The Fourteenth Corps night before last were twenty miles out from Savannah and getting along well. Geary's division of my corps is with it. General Slocum went up from this point on steamer to Sister's Ferry at daylight this morning. The roads require much repairing, but we shall get over them very well.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Pocotaligo, Saturday, January 28, 1865.

General WILLIAMS,
Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: Your note of to-day is received. I inclose you an open letter,* which please read and forward to General Slocum. We are all well on this flank and anxious for you to get all things in shape for a fair start.

Truly, yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

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* See second, *ante*.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 5.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Ga., January 28, 1865.

This command will move to-morrow at 6.30 a. m. Order of brigades: Third, First, Second. Sloan's battery will march as usual behind the second brigade in line.

Colonel Mindil with his brigade will bring the trains through. The pioneer corps of the First Brigade will report to him for duty.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary:

W. T. FORBES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Bradham's House, January 28, 1865.

Brigadier-General WARD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that he finds the road from this place to Sister's Ferry entirely impracticable, and that he has directed the First Division to push on as far as possible to-night toward Robertsville. It will get probably about four miles from here to-night. He desires that you will start your command at daylight to-morrow morning, following the First Division on the road to Robertsville, and push on as near that place as possible. The citizens here state that the river is again rising, and the direct road from here to Sister's Ferry is flooded. The general, therefore, desires to have you come on as rapidly as possible, so that in case the road between here and Purysburg should be flooded your command will not be cut off. He desires that you will have all of your wagons loaded at Purysburg before starting. The wagons we borrowed to move corps headquarters will be sent back to-night to Purysburg, where they can be loaded with supplies. Forage is scarce, and after leaving Purysburg you will have to feed light. The general wishes that you would have Lieutenant Harbert send by you a report of the subsistence stores left at Purysburg after your command is furnished and wagons loaded. You will leave one regiment behind to guard the surplus stores.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Pocotaligo, S. C., January 28, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. G. FOSTER,
Commanding Department of the South, Hilton Head:

GENERAL: Yours of the 27th is received and I am pushing my efforts to secure a departure by Monday or Tuesday next. I have in person reconnoitered the country from Salkehatchie bridge to Coosawhatchie. The country is very low and swampy and impassable save by the roads marked on our maps. I have no doubt this whole belt of land once formed the sea coast with its sound islands and marsh, which by the progress seaward of the beach is left inland, but still possessing its character of sound islands, surrounded by fresh-water marsh. This is the first point of terra firma, and has better connections inland. As near as I can learn Gillisonville, on the south of Coosawhatchie, is a corresponding point of the mainland and Robertsville of course. There-

fore, until I am surely between Augusta and Charleston, it would be imprudent to let go this point. I have ordered General Hatch to move to a camp between this place (which is near Pocotaligo Depot) and Salkehatchie bridge, and to picket Coosawhatchie fort and the fort back at Pocotaligo bridge. The latter is the key point for defense, but for offense the line of the railroad is the proper one. I would, therefore, not reduce Hatch's force here till you have ascertained the effect on Charleston, by my appearance west of Branchville. All Salkehatchie is under water for a mile on either side of the regular bed, and it s almost impossible to get to it. The bridges have been burned by the enemy, who seems to occupy the opposite bank, but his force, if amounting to anything, is kept well back. I could see a few men at the railroad bank, and what seemed a gun in embrasure, but it was not fired, although our men stood in tempting groups on the railroad bank, this side, in easy six-pounder range. We find cavalry to our front toward Barnwell, and hear of some infantry, but I suppose the enemy simply is watching me and keeps his main force where it can be thrown rapidly on exposed points. Your demonstration on Willstown is right, but should not be more than a demonstration, that is a lodgment seemingly to cover the disembarkation of a large body. The admiral's feeling up the Edisto and Stono is well, but my movement to the rear of Charleston is the principal, and all others should be accessory—merely to take advantage of any let-go. Try and keep me well advised of Slocum's progress. He reports that Davis would move on the 25th, and he should be at Sister's Ferry to-day. I shall cause him to be felt for to-morrow.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 28, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Grand Army, Pocotaligo:

GENERAL: I send you the only two late papers brought by the Baltic, which arrived this a. m. Major Strong, whom I sent with a letter to Admiral Dahlgren, reports that the admiral has gone to the northward, probably to the Combahee or Edisto Rivers. He reports that the Dai Ching was sunk in the Combahee River on the 26th. She grounded in consequence of the very low water in the river caused by the strong westerly winds, and a rebel battery situated below the ferry riddled her with shot. She was finally abandoned and burned. The crew escaped across the land, and en route captured a schooner with seventy bales of cotton. Her captain says he has not been in Charleston for nearly one month, and knows little of the military situation. The Thirty-second U. S. Colored Troops has landed at Edisto Island since the loss of the Dai Ching, which will induce the belief that a flank movement on the position at Combahee is designed, particularly as General Potter will push up to Jehossee Island and make a show of crossing. If you desire I will run up there and make a tremendous stir and show of intention to land and cut the railroad and retreat of the troops from the Combahee. I can take a few hundred men from here and a regiment or two from Savannah. I have sent 100 men to King's Bridge, Ogeechee River, from here, to get the machinery of a mill there. The steamer first sent without guard reported small bodies of Wheeler's cavalry in the vicinity.

Be so kind as to direct General Hatch in his movements so that he may be able to carry out your wishes in case I may have to go to the northward to look after matters at the Combahee, Edisto, and Stono Rivers, and at Morris Island. He has already reported that he is to move to the Combahee, and I have made arrangements to supply his wants of wagons, scows, &c.

General Schimmelfennig reports from the Northern District that the enemy are making continued preparations to take the field. Their force is still strong in his front, and some new troops have arrived. The enemy's working parties are discontinued on all the works except Castle Pinckney, where they are at work on the earth covering the scarp, at low water. The light guns have been moved from Fort Sumter and apparently most of the light guns from John's and James Islands. The enemy exhibits nervousness, but not so much of a panic as existed after the fall of Savannah.

Very respectfully and truly, yours,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 28, 1865.

Brig. Gen. JOHN P. HATCH,
Commanding Coast Division:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th instant relative to the movement of your command in accordance with instructions received by you from Major-General Sherman. I have referred your letter to Major Thomas, chief quartermaster, with instructions to render you all the assistance necessary.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 28, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that Captain Hudson, aide-de-camp on the staff of Lieutenant-General Grant, arrived here this evening on the Fulton with dispatches for you, and that I forward him at once to you under the escort of Major Anderson. I also send you the paper of the 25th. Brig. Gen. Henry Prince also arrived on the Fulton and is coming up to report to you.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 28, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. GROVER,
Commanding District of Savannah, Department of the South:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to inclose to you a copy of a letter to Mr. T. C. Severance, assistant Treasury

agent at Hilton Head, relative to trade permits. Also a form that he requests may be put upon all permits for traders to bring goods to Savannah on private vessels, after you have approved of said permits.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 28, 1865.

Mr. T. C. SEVERANCE,
Assistant Treasury Agent, Hilton Head, S. C.:

SIR: Referring to the conversation of yesterday on matters concerning trade, I have to state in writing the substance thereof in order that there may be no misunderstanding. I desire that all permits to take goods into the different districts of this command, signed by myself as a military necessity, may, after the payment of the proper charges, be cleared at once for their destination and that goods may not be cleared under any other circumstances. Whenever lists of trade stores allowed in either of the districts are made out, approved by me, and submitted to you, with the amount of trade per month to be allowed each store, I request that you may allow this amount to be introduced monthly without further permits being required, but not to allow the parties to exceed the limit prescribed. Anything beyond this limit must have a separate permit approved by me. It is understood that the trade stores in Beaufort and Hilton Head are to have the limit of $6,000 per month for January and February. Thereafter they will be restricted to the old limit. The limit for the trade stores at Savannah is yet to be established, and until this is done goods are to be admitted on special permits. With regard to the vessels for conveying goods to the different blockading points in the department, as the Treasury Department requires me to certify that the shipments are to be on the same footing as Government stores on Government transports (see Form A), I desire that whenever such a certificate is made by me the vessel be cleared without delay, and that if there be any infraction of the Treasury regulations which makes it necessary for you to inflict proper punishment in the way of seizure, this may be done without interfering with the passage of such vessels or the conveyance of the necessary supplies. Whenever I sign a permit for goods to be sent to any part of the department as a military necessity I expect such permit to be respected and the goods to be cleared without unnecessary delay.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

BALTIMORE, MD., *January 28, 1865—8.30 p. m.*
(Received 9.15 p. m.)

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War:

Since my telegram of the 25th, furnishing particulars of shipments of troops from Benwood, including train No. 17, we have forwarded from that point, prior to 10 last p. m., additional trains with an aggregate of 247 cars troops, horses, baggage, and artillery. The weather is still

intensely cold, materially affecting and damaging machinery, but the movement has continued, on the whole, exceedingly successful, in view of the surrounding difficulties, and with favorable prospects of the entire transportation being accomplished without delay.

J. W. GARRETT,
President.

CITY POINT, VA., *January 28, 1865—1.30 p. m.*

Brig. Gen. D. H. RUCKER,
Chief Quartermaster:

We require transports to send to North Carolina. Those already sent are not promptly returned. There are two vessels now at Fort Monroe, which you had ordered to Washington. As the Potomac is closed may these vessels be ordered here? If so, please telegraph Colonel Webster or Captain James at Fort Monroe. Try and keep Annapolis open at all hazards. There is only some six days' cattle on hand, but, if necessary, they will last a longer time. It is colder than yesterday, though this river is free of ice to-day. We have some eleven days' grain and one and a half of hay and plenty of subsistence.

R. INGALLS,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Pocotaligo, S. C., January 29, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

DEAR GENERAL: Captain Hudson has this moment arrived with your letter of January 21, which I have read with interest. The capture of Fort Fisher has a most important bearing on my campaign and I rejoice in it for many reasons, because of its intrinsic importance and because it gives me another point of security on the sea-board. I hope General Terry will follow it up by the capture of Wilmington, although I do not look for it from Admiral Porter's dispatch to me. I rejoiced that Terry was not a West Pointer, that he belonged to your army, and that he had the same troops with which Butler feared to make the attempt. Porter is in high glee.

Admiral Dahlgren, whose fleet is re-enforced by some more iron-clads, wants to make an assault a la Fisher on Fort Moultrie, but I withhold my consent for the reason that the capture of all Sullivan's Island is not conclusive as to Charleston. The capture of James Island would be, but all pronounce that impossible at this time; therefore, I am moving, as hitherto designed, for the railroad west of Branchville; then swing across to Orangeburg, which will interpose my army between Charleston and the interior. Contemporaneous with this Foster will demonstrate up the Edisto and afterward make a lodgment at Bull's Bay and occupy the common road which leads from Mount Pleasant toward Georgetown. When I get to Columbia I think I shall move straight for Goldsborough, via Fayetteville. By this circuit I cut all roads and devastate the land, and the forces along the coast, commanded by Foster, will follow my movement, taking anything the enemy lets go, or so occupies his attention that he cannot detach all his forces against me. I feel sure of getting Wilmington and may be Charleston, and being at Goldsborough, with its railroads finished

back to Morehead City and Wilmington, I can easily take Raleigh, when it seems that Lee must come out of his trenches or allow his army to be absolutely invested. If Schofield comes to Beaufort he should be pushed out to Kinston on the Neuse, and may be Goldsborough, or rather a point on the Wilmington road south of Goldsborough. It is not necessary to storm Goldsborough, because it is in a distant region of no importance in itself, and if its garrison is forced to draw supplies from its north it will be eating up the same stores on which Lee depends for his command. I have no doubt Hood will bring his army to Augusta, and Canby and Thomas should penetrate Alabama as far as possible to keep employed, at least, a part of Hood's army, or what would accomplish the same thing, Thomas might reoccupy the railroad from Chattanooga forward to the Etowah, viz, Rome, Kingston, and Allatoona, thereby threatening Georgia. I know that the Georgia troops are disaffected. At Savannah I met delegates from several counties to the southwest that manifested a decidedly hostile spirit to the Confederate cause. I nursed it along as far as possible and instructed Grover to keep it up. My Left Wing must now be at Sister's Ferry, crossing the Savannah River to the east bank. Slocum has orders to be at Robertsville to-morrow, prepared to move on Barnwell. Howard is here, all ready to start for the Augusta railroad at Midway.

We find the enemy on the east side of the Salkehatchie and cavalry in our front, but all give ground on our approach, and seem to be merely watching us. If I start on Tuesday, in one week I will be near Orangeburg, having broken up the Augusta road, from the Edisto westward twenty or twenty-five miles. I will be sure that every rail is twisted. Should I encounter too much opposition near Orangeburg, then I will for a time neglect that branch and rapidly move on Columbia and fill up the triangle formed by the Congaree and Wateree, tributaries of the Santee, breaking up that great center of the Carolina roads. Up to that point I feel full confidence, but from there I may have to maneuver some, and will be guided by the questions of weather and supplies. You remember I had fine weather all February for my Meridian trip, and my memory of the weather at Charleston is that February is usually a fine month. Before the March storms come I should be within striking distance of the coast. The months of April and May will be the best for operations from Goldsborough to Raleigh and the Roanoke. You may rest assured that I will keep my troops well in hand, and if I get worsted will aim to make the enemy pay so dearly that you will have less to do. I know this trip is necessary to the war. It must be made sooner or later, and I am on time and in the right position for it. My army is large enough for the purpose, and I ask no re-enforcement, but simply wish the utmost activity at all other points, so that concentration against me may not be universal.

I expect Davis will move Heaven and earth to catch me, for success to my column is fatal to his dream of empire. Richmond is not more vital to his cause than Columbia and the heart of South Carolina. If Thomas will not move on Selma, order him to occupy Rome, Kingston, and Allatoona, and again threaten Georgia in the direction of Athens. I think the poor white trash of the South are falling out of their ranks by sickness, desertion, and every available means; but there is a large class of vindictive Southerners who will fight to the last. The squabbles in Richmond, the howls in Charleston, and the disintegration elsewhere are all good omens to us, but we must not relax one iota, but on the contrary pile up our efforts.

I would ere this have been off, but we had terrific rains which caught me in motion and nearly drowned some of my columns in the rice fields of the Savannah, swept away our causeway, which had been carefully corduroyed, and made the swamps hereabout mere lakes of slimy mud, but the weather is now good and I have my army on terra firma. Supplies, too, came for a long time by daily driblets instead of in bulk; but this is now all remedied, and I hope to start on Tuesday.

I will issue instructions to Foster, based on the re-enforcements of North Carolina, and if Schofield comes you had better relieve Foster, who cannot take the field, and needs an operation on his leg, and let Schofield take command with headquarters at Beaufort, N. C., and orders to secure, if possible, Goldsborough, with railroad connections back to Beaufort and Wilmington. If Lee lets us get that position he is gone up.

I will start with my Atlanta army, 60,000; supplied as before and depending on the country for all in excess of thirty days. I will have less cattle on the hoof, but I hear of hogs, cows and calves in Barnwell and the Columbia Districts; even here we found some forage. Of course the enemy will carry off and destroy some forage but I will burn the houses where the people burn forage and they will get tired of that.

I must risk Hood, and trust to you to hold Lee, or be on his heels if he comes south. I observe that the enemy has some respect for my men, for they gave up Pocotaligo quick when they heard that the attacking force belonged to me. I will try and keep up that feeling, which is a real power.

With respect, your friend.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

I leave my chief quartermaster and commissary behind to follow coastwise.

FLAG-SHIP HARVEST MOON,
Port Royal, January 29, 1865.

General SHERMAN, *Commanding, &c.:*

DEAR GENERAL: I was very glad to hear by your note of the 27th, just received, that everything was going so much to your satisfaction. I wish I could say so for myself, but first the Patapsco would be blown up by a torpedo, and now the Dai Ching gets foul of a battery, gets aground, can't get off, and is destroyed. One thing was right, she was defended for seven hours and abandoned to the flames only when her pivot gun was disabled by a shot. All the officers and men brought off but four captured in a boat by pickets, so the rebels did not gain much. A contraband from Charleston says they have drawn off nearly all the troops from about the city toward Branchville, where they look for "Mr. Sherman." I had no gun-boat to replace the Dai Ching in the Combahee, and sent the Pawnee from the Ashepoo to North Edisto, because I understood General Foster that he was sending a detachment there for a diversion. The Sonoma was there already. Very sorry, general, that I cannot do any more for you, but the consolation is that you do not need it. The cipher is all right, and its chief merit seems to me that when once written it may be inscrutable to everybody.

With my heartiest wishes, dear general, I am, most truly, yours,
J. A. DAHLGREN.

P. S.—When you get to Richmond I wish to be there, for I have yet to bury my boy.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Pocotaligo, January 29, 1865.

General McCALLUM,
Railroad Department, Savannah:
(In his absence, Col. W. W. Wright.)

GENERAL: I have well reconnoitered the country hereabouts, and am satisfied that it is not to our interest to reconstruct, at this time, any of the railroads out of Savannah. After securing all the property there, I wish you to transfer your men and tools to North Carolina—New Berne, unless Wilmington should fall into our possession—and prepare to make railroad communication to Goldsborough by the middle of March. You need not build the bridge over Port Royal, which I requested of you at Savannah; that can be done by Foster's command. General Grant advises me of heavy re-enforcements being sent to North Carolina. You may, therefore, at once, transport Colonel Wright and his operatives to New Berne, or Wilmington, if that place be in our possession, and prepare timber, irons, cars and locomotives adapted to the road of North Carolina, enough to build out to Goldsborough, when you can get possession of the road. Let Colonel Wright report to General Schofield, or other commanding officer he may find, who, on presenting this letter, will furnish all aid. General Easton will furnish the necessary transportation.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 23.

HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Pocotaligo, S. C., January 29, 1865.

I. Brig. Gen. Henry Prince, U. S. Volunteers, having reported pursuant to Special Field Orders, No. 327, headquarters Department of the Cumberland, series 1864, will report to Maj. Gen. J. G. Foster, commanding Department of the South, for special assignment to duty.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Pocotaligo, January 29, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: General John E. Smith made a reconnaissance to McPhersonville to-day; reports a good road from his camp to that place. McPhersonville is deserted. Heard of two or three scouting parties, but no force. I have received your message by Colonel Strong, and will arrest the movement to-morrow night, as you desire, and not push forward farther till ordered. To-morrow's move, if we should not push farther, might convey the idea of turning on Charleston, particularly if I seek a good point for crossing the Salkehatchie, and act as if intending to throw a bridge.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Pocotaligo, S. C., January 29, 1865.

Col. J. T. CONKLIN,
Chief Quartermaster, Department and Army of the Tennessee:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding desires me to say that after to-day's march this army will probably delay further movements for a day or two to await the moving up of General Slocum's column. Do not, therefore, send back any stores you may have on hand or coming up, as in any event the forces of General Hatch will remain in this vicinity.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. SLADEN,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 6. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Pocotaligo, S. C., January 29, 1865.

Capt. A. M. Van Dyke, assistant adjutant-general, is hereby announced as assistant adjutant-general at these headquarters, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

JOS. A. SLADEN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 4. } HDQRS. DEPT. AND ARMY OF THE TENN.,
Beaufort, S. C., January 29, 1865.

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IV. The steamer Savannah having, in accordance with orders, arrived at this post with several hundred recruits, &c., for the army under General Sherman, is ordered to proceed with same to Blair's landing, on the Pocotaligo River, where they will, under the direction of Captain Lomax, First Alabama Cavalry, in charge, be disembarked and turned over for distribution to their several commands. Captain Low, assistant quartermaster, will give the commander of the Savannah orders to this effect.

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By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 26. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Pocotaligo, S. C., January 29, 1865.

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IV. The major-general commanding Fifteenth Corps, having expressed a desire to retain Maj. Max. Woodhull, assistant adjutant-general, as his adjutant, so much of extract IX, Special Field Orders, No. 17, as relieves him from duty with the Fifteenth Corps and ordering him to report to the major-general commanding Department and Army of the Tennessee, is hereby revoked.

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By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

JOS. A. SLADEN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Pocotaligo, S. C., January 29, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Captain Cadle, of General Blair's staff, informed me that everything belonging to the Seventeenth Corps would be out of the way to-day, so I will be glad if you will start your leading division as early as 6 a. m., so as to reach Pocotaligo Station by 8 o'clock. I will inform General Sherman that he may have his headquarters enter your column wherever you or he may wish. I am sorry that Clark has not closed up. He probably will be able to do so in the morning. If you find it practicable you can push your column as far beyond Heywardsville as you can, communicating with me from that place by any cross-roads leading to the river. I will draw up an order for Tuesday so soon as I can learn the place of your halting. I shall look to you, general, daily for any information of the whereabouts or intentions of the enemy.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. 1ST BRIG., 3D DIV., FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Camp, Six Miles from Pocotaligo, S. C., January 29, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. JOHN E. SMITH,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report my arrival at this point with my brigade at 6.30 p. m. this day. Under Major-General Logan's directions I encamped here with instructions to move at 5.30 a. m. to-morrow to join the division. I received this morning for my brigade ninety-eight recruits assigned to Forty-eighth Indiana Infantry, only about ten of whom are armed with muskets left by sick men sent to Beaufort under existing orders. I expect to reach the command by 8 o'clock or 8.30 to-morrow morning. Your quartermaster, Captain Skinner, has doubtless already informed you of the difficulties in the way of my arriving before with my command. Colonel Tourtellotte, of Fourth Minnesota, has been left in charge of all transportation, detachments, &c., belonging to this corps, with instructions to come up at the earliest possible moment. From all the information I could obtain he will be able to leave to-morrow morning and, by a forced march, join us to-morrow night.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. T. CLARK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Springfield, Ga., January 29, 1865.

Col. R. N. ADAMS,
Commanding Second Brigade:

You will move your command into Springfield to-morrow, starting at 7 a. m. prompt. You will make a detail from your brigade sufficient to carry all your spades and axes and prepare the road as you march. Colonel Hurlbut will make a similar detail and prepare the roads as much as

possible and keep out of your way. It is desirable that you complete the road for the passage of the trains. The battery and your own train to accompany you, the former in position in rear of your first regiment. The working detail will have their knapsacks carried in the wagons from which the tools were taken. Upon arriving at Springfield you will halt until the remainder of the division shall have passed, when you will take position in rear and follow the First Brigade, the battery being transferred to the same. After leaving Springfield the trains will move the same as to-day, brigade trains in the order of their respective brigades, &c.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Springfield, Ga., January 29, 1865.

Col. F. J. HURLBUT,
Commanding Third Brigade, in the Field:

You will move your command into the village of Springfield, starting at 6 a. m. to-morrow, the 30th instant. Before starting you will make a detail from your command, sufficient to use all your spades and axes, who will prepare the road sufficient for the passage of your own command and its trains, and, in fact, preparing the roads as well as you can, and keep out of the way of the troops to follow. The men detailed to prepare roads will have their knapsacks deposited in the wagons from which the tools are taken, as much delay is occasioned by the men having to unsling them at every halt for work. Upon arriving at Springfield you will halt your command and wait until the remainder of the division has passed, when you will take your position in rear of the column during the remainder of the day.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 26. HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 29, 1865.

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XII. The following are the orders for to-morrow:

1. Brig. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will move forward at 8 a. m. on the road designated in Special Field Orders, No. 25, extract II, from department headquarters.

2. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will move his command at 7 a. m. out on the road taken by him in his demonstrations against the Salkehatchie River, taking care to keep to the right so as not to interfere with the Fifteenth Corps.

3. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will follow the First Division.

4. The pontoon train now encamped near the Fourth Division will follow the Fourth Division.

5. The train of the Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will follow the train of the First Division.

The train of department headquarters and of these headquarters will move after the advance brigade of the First Division.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 22. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 29, 1865.

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VIII. This command will march to-morrow in the following order: First, Second Brigade; second, Battery Fifteenth Ohio; third, First Brigade.

Two ammunition wagons will follow immediately in rear of troops of each brigade. Ambulances for brigades following in rear of same.

Division, brigade, and regimental wagons will follow the ambulances of the rear brigade. The hospital train (six wagons) will follow regimental wagons. The ordnance trains will follow the hospital trains. The supply trains will follow the ordnance train. The pioneer corps with its tool-teams will habitually precede the command. The other pioneer wagons, Twentieth Illinois wagons, and ambulance wagon will follow immediately in rear of division headquarters train.

This order of march for trains will be observed during the campaign unless otherwise ordered.

The hour of starting will be indicated hereafter.

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By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CAMP FOURTH DIVISION,
Five Miles from Pocotaligo, January 29, 1865.

Capt. C. CADLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I am encamped about four miles from the railroad where the road forks, the left-hand one going to McPhersonville, and the other along the Salkehatchie River. The proper route for the First and Third Divisions is the road General Mower took the day he came out here to cross the river. We are now where he made some rail barricades at or near the forks of the road. A citizen here says that will not interfere with the column on the McPhersonville road. The road we came on is badly cut up and is two miles farther. The road General Mower came out comes into this about one mile back. The enemy are reported by the negroes to be intrenching at Kadesh Church, six miles from here, but from what I learn about the country around there it can be approached from any direction. According to a very reliable-looking white man who lives here McPhersonville is only three miles from here, and it is the same distance from the station where the other divisions are encamped. This point is five miles from the station the way General Mower came, and about seven the way we came. I shall send this the road we came up, as I do not consider the other safe for single horsemen. Colonel Hibbets just informed me that the works I spoke of were

thrown up by his regiment and the Twenty-third Indiana the first day General Mower was out, so Captain Henley will know just where we are, and the road to come on.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GILES A. SMITH,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Pocotaligo, January 29, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. G. FOSTER,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: I have your letter of yesterday. Tell Admiral Dahlgren I regret the loss of the Dai Ching, but can quote Admiral Porter, who told me once that ships were made to be "lost." Your movement by Edisto is good, but understand me as of opinion that if the enemy mans his works facing the sea you cannot gain them save at a disadvantage, but by demonstrating at points of land from which troops can move against the railroad by a rapid, quick march, you compel him to keep the entire railroad guarded from Charleston to Salkehatchie, but I don't care about the road being actually broken until the latter part of next week. If you know that the enemy falls behind the Edisto you should break the railroad anywhere this side of him and then you could reduce Hatch's command here to the number you calculated, viz, 1,000 men, but so long as McLaws (rebel) has the railroad by which he can handle 4,000 or 5,000 men rapidly it will be imprudent to leave Hatch too weak. There is no use in a force here at all, unless it is on the railroad. This point, Pocotaligo, is most salient, and therefore best, but if deemed unsafe at any time the fort at Coosawhatchie would fulfill the same conditions, and its river is deeper and better. I have no doubt a steam-boat could work up to the Coosawhatchie fort at high tide. Flats drawn by barges could certainly. I merely want a point of security here till I am surely beyond the Santee, and by a force here you better cover your island and the Savannah River than by any other disposition of your troops.

I expect from Tennessee a force of some 5,000 to 8,000 men belonging to the four corps with me here. Stop them at Hilton Head and use them unless they get there in time to reach me, which is very improbable. Out of them you can make up a good command to demonstrate on Charleston, Georgetown, and from Smithville, Cape Fear River as I progress, aiming to join their respective commands when we touch the sea-board. If I break the railroad to Augusta and Columbia, it will be well to strike that to Wilmington unless Wilmington in the meantime be taken by Terry. The easiest point to reach that railroad will be from Cape Fear River to the south and west of Wilmington.

You may make as much display on Edisto, and about Stono, next Wednesday and Thursday, as possible, and cause the troops at Morris Island to make a lodgment on James Island if possible. That is the vital part of Charleston.

I am, &c.,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Pocotaligo, January 29, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. G. FOSTER,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: I have just received dispatches from General Grant stating that Schofield's corps, the Twenty-third, 21,000 strong, is ordered east from Tennessee, and will be sent to Beaufort, N. C. That is well. I want that force to secure a point on the railroad about Goldsborough and then to build the road out to that point. If Goldsborough be too strong to carry by a rapid movement, then a point near the Neuse, south of Goldsborough, but holding the bridge and position about Kinston and fortify strong. The movement should be masked by the troops already at New Berne. Please notify General Palmer that these troops are coming and for him to prepare to receive them. Major-General Schofield will command them in person, and is admirably adapted for the work. If it is possible I want him to secure Goldsborough with the railroad back to Morehead City and Wilmington. As soon as General Schofield reaches Fort Macon, have him to meet some one of your staff to explain in full detail the situation of affairs with me, and you can give him chief command of all troops at Cape Fear and in North Carolina. If he finds the enemy has all turned south against me he need not follow, but turn his attention against Raleigh. But if he can secure Goldsborough and Wilmington it will be as much as I expect before I have passed the Santee. Send him all detachments of men that have come to join my army. They can be so organized and officered as to be more efficient, for they are nearly all old soldiers who have been detached or on furlough. Until I pass the Santee you can better use these detachments at Bull's Bay, Georgetown, &c.

I will instruct General McCallum, of the railroad department, to take his men up to Beaufort, N. C., and use them on the road out. I do not know that he can employ them on any road here. I did instruct him, whilst waiting information from North Carolina, to employ them in building a good trestle bridge across Port Royal Ferry, but I now suppose the pontoon bridge will do. If you move the pontoons be sure to make a good road out to Garden's Corners and mark it with sign board, obstructing the old road so that should I send back any detachments they will not be misled. I prefer that Hatch's forces hereabout should not be materially weakened until I am near Columbia, when you may be governed by the situation of affairs about Charleston. If you can break the railroad between this and Charleston then this force could be reduced.

I am, with respect,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Pocotaligo, January 29, 1865.

General HATCH,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I wish you to-morrow to send a detachment to the forks of the road this side of the Salkehatchie, and then make demonstrations as though preparatory to cross over to the east side. Try and make a pathway of fallen timber through the swamp, so as to enable skirmishers to appear near the river-bank at the railroad and wagon road bridges. Also, if possible, let one or more horsemen try to pass

through the water along the wagon road. I think the water must have subsided enough for this. Also let a party take tools and prepare on the railroad causeway a place (countersunk) for two guns in embrasure. Report to me what is seen by night. I will remain here till I hear from General Slocum about Robertsville, when the whole army will move north, leaving you to cover this point. I deem it important to hold the position on the railroad for some time, say ten days, after I leave, and during that time to feel across the Salkehatchie in the direction of Charleston, so as to destroy the railroad as far toward the Edisto as possible. As long as the railroad is intact up to Salkehatchie you will see an enemy may rapidly interpose between here and Port Royal, which might incommode us. At the same time General Foster will try and cut the road between this and Charleston, the effect of which will be to make the enemy guard the road in its whole length. After I have reached the Augusta road I do not think this road will be of much use to the enemy.

I am, with respect,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Near Pocotaligo, S. C., January 29, 1865.

Col. C. H. VAN WYCK,
Commanding First Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that the Twenty-fifth Ohio Volunteers be ready to march to-morrow morning in light-marching order at 8.30 o'clock.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Near Pocotaligo, S. C., January 29, 1865.

Captain HAMNER,
Commanding Artillery Brigade:

CAPTAIN: You will move your command and take position in the fort on this side of the Pocotaligo bridge to-morrow morning.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Near Pocotaligo, S. C., January 29, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER THIRTY-THIRD U. S. COLORED TROOPS:

The Thirty-third U. S. Colored Troops will take position inside of the fort at Pocotaligo to-morrow morning. One company will be sent to guard stores at Blair's landing early in the morning.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 29, 1865.

Brig. Gen. E. P. SCAMMON,
Commanding District of Florida, Jacksonville, Fla.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your report of the 27th instant giving details of an engagement of a small party of the Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry with a cavalry force of the enemy. The major-general commanding directs me to say that he regrets exceedingly that so small a force should have been sent. He requests that hereafter no party be sent out less than 1,000 strong, except when scouts are sent to ascertain the position of the enemy. The general also regrets that Colonel Tilghman should have sent out such a small force so far into the country for purposes not strictly military. The Thirty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops will be sent to your district as soon as possible. They will have to be taken from active duty with the Coast Division for this purpose. No more cavalry can be sent to your district, as we have none in the department that can be spared. The general desires that as soon as the Thirty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops arrive in your district they be put immediately at work, or a sufficient number of them, on the defenses of the inland cut between Fernandina and the Saint John's River.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *January 29, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. G. FOSTER:

DEAR FOSTER: Major Gouraud will take the papers, which will show exactly how we stand here. In a letter written to me by Townsend on the 16th he directed me to send all this information to General Sherman, and I did so. Sherman writes me that he has received them, and that they are very complete, the only thing not mentioned being the gauge of our railroad. This gauge is four feet eight and one-half inches, as the superintendent tells me. Major Gouraud will examine this very carefully to-day. Things in North Carolina are in a very snug shape. Last spring Butler ordered everything that could be spared from here to go to Virginia. Large quantities of ordnance, or rather small ammunition, is coming here, and we will have to work like beavers to get everything in order for movements from here. It is "in the air" that Sherman is coming through North Carolina. The people generally seem to think this is so, and they are making their preparations accordingly. I shall deceive them as to the programme as far as I can. General Grant has just arrived at Morehead, and he has telegraphed me to come down, and I go down with Gouraud.*

Hastily, yours,

I. N. PALMER.

UNOFFICIAL.] MOREHEAD CITY, N. C.,
Sunday, January 29, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. G. FOSTER:

MY DEAR FOSTER: I came here this a. m. to see General Grant. Schofield and General Rawlins, likewise Fox (Navy Department), were

* Some strictly personal matter here omitted.

with him. Grant told me to write to you and say to you that since your last letter was written to me some considerable changes have taken place in the programme. Schofield's corps comes to the Department of the South, and one division of it is to be left here with me, so when you have anything for me to do you may calculate upon my being somewhat stronger than we are now here. You will probably hear from General Grant very soon. I think he went only as far as Wilmington. I hope and believe that we will be in good condition here to help the cause. When you get Charleston can't you write me to come and see the town before it is burned up?

Sincerely, yours,

I. N. PALMER.

WASHINGTON, *January 29, 1865—12.50 p. m.*

Major-General GILLMORE:

(Care of D. Van Nostrand, 192 Broadway, New York.)

When will you be ready for assignment to a command?

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., *January 29, 1865.*
(Received 6.20 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

Your dispatch is received. I am ready for assignment to command now. I write by this mail.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

SAVANNAH, *January 30, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN, U. S. Army,
Commanding the Military Department of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I have the honor to transmit to you an official copy of the proceedings of a meeting of the citizens of Savannah held on the 25th instant. They so fully explain themselves that it would be tautology in me to add anything more, a hearty participant as I was in them.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. D. ARNOLD,
Mayor of Savannah.

[Inclosure.]

Proceedings of a public meeting held in the Council Chamber, Savannah, January 25, 1865.

In response to a call made in pursuance to the following resolution of the city council, viz—

Resolved, That his honor Mayor Arnold be requested to convene a meeting of our citizens at the Exchange at 12 o'clock on the 25th instant, for the purpose of giving expression to their heartfelt thanks to the citizens of New York and Boston for the very large, valuable, and timely contributions of provisions and other necessaries of

life which have been received and are now on their way to this city, and that his honor the mayor invite the several committees from New York and Boston, including the owners and the commander of the Rebecca Clyde, with Captain Veale, of General Geary's staff, and Lieutenant Charlot, U. S. Army, all of whom have co-operated with us in the good work, to attend the meeting—

A large meeting of the citizens met this day at the Exchange. On motion of Mr. H. Brigham, his honor Mayor Arnold was called to the chair, and Mr. John Gammell was requested to act as secretary. The mayor on taking the chair made the following remarks:

FELLOW-CITIZENS: For the second time since the capture of our city it has been my duty to summon you to meet together in public assembly. The occasion which brings you together to-day is one which will be ever remarkable, even in the annals of the last few weeks, so pregnant as they have been with events which make epochs in history, and which almost condense a lifetime in a day. A brief review of the circumstances under which we were placed will be necessary for a clearer understanding of our present condition. The capture of Savannah on the 21st of December, 1864, produced greater alterations in our condition than mere military possession and military government. The Confederate currency, already inflated to an almost nominal value, was still the medium of exchange while Savannah was in the Confederacy, but the moment the United States regained Savannah Confederate money was literally not worth the paper on which it was printed, and all, all of us, individuals and the city government, were reduced to a dead level of poverty. Cut off from all communication with the external world, with no means to purchase provisions and no provisions to purchase, I did not exaggerate your condition in my opening remarks on the 28th of December. The want of fuel was supplied as far as practicable by the direction of the noble Geary, and I am happy to state that at the earliest practicable period his successor, Major-General Grover, will take measures to furnish wood to our inhabitants. The statements made at the meeting of the citizens, and the observations of eye-witnesses from the North, struck a sympathetic cord in the breasts of many generous citizens of New York and Boston, and recollecting the time-honored adage, *bis dat qui cito dat* (he gives doubly who gives quickly), in the shortest possible time, and at the most inclement season of the year, behold the noble steam-ships wending their way southward freighted with provisions, accompanied by the committees, whose whole-souled philanthropy has been their only guide. These ships, this acceptable freight, these philanthropic gentlemen of the committees of New York and Boston are here, and it is to give you an opportunity of expressing your heartfelt gratitude that you have met together this day. I do not envy the man who is not willing to join heartily and sincerely in this expression of feeling, but I do not believe there is any such within the sound of my voice. I hope that this day will prove that the citizens of Savannah justly appreciate the generosity of New York and Boston, and that they will further show that they look upon the action as the olive branch of peace, and that they will meet it on their part by the fairest, frankest acceptance of it as such. Such, from what I have seen, I believe to be the prevalent sentiment of our people. War stirs up the very foundations of society. We are now in the midst of jarring elements, but a ray of light is dawning. We may expect that it will lead to a more perfect day, and we must in the meantime endeavor to profit by the words of Saint Paul: "Tribulation worketh patience, and patience experience, and experience hope."

He then introduced to the meeting the following gentlemen: Messrs. Archibald Baxter, C. H. P. Babcock, Frank Lathrop, representatives of the city of New York; Messrs. H. O. Briggs, W. H. Baldwin, H. D. Hyde, representatives of the city of Boston; Mr. L. E. Chittenden, one of the owners of the steamer Rebecca Clyde; Mr. John M. Glidden, one of the owners of the steamer Greyhound; Captain Veale, U. S. Army, and Lieutenant Charlot, U. S. Army, acting with the relief committee on part of the military authorities.

On motion, the chair appointed the following committee of thirteen gentlemen to report resolutions, viz: Wylly Woodbridge, N. B. Knapp, T. R. Mills, William Hunter, G. W. Wylly, E. Padelford, A. Champion, A. A. Solomons, John McMahon, Isaac Cohen, T. J. Walsh, John R. Wilder, H. A. Crane.

During the absence of the committee, by invitation of the chairman, the meeting was eloquently and appropriately addressed by the following gentlemen, viz: Messrs. Baxter, Chittenden, Briggs, Baldwin, and

Hyde, and Captain Veale, U. S. Army. The committee having returned, reported, through their chairman, Wylly Woodbridge, esq., the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

The spontaneous and unsolicited liberality and benevolence of the citizens of New York and Boston, in raising contributions and purchasing and forwarding provisions for the use of the destitute of the city of Savannah, call for no ordinary expression on the part of its citizens. Deprived for years of all external trade, cut off from the commercial world by a rigid blockade, the resources of the town were gradually wasted away, until we had reached the point of almost positive starvation when the occupation by the army of General Sherman took place. This transition state of society complicates our situation. The military power must obtain, so long as any portion of the Southern States maintain an armed resistance to the Union. Civil government cannot be established nor the channels of ordinary intercourse be opened. While this lasts the people are comparatively helpless. Such is the situation of Savannah, and such, in succession, will be the condition of the various portions of the country as they again fall into possession of the National Government. The hand of sympathy and fellowship so generously extended to us by the citizens of New York and Boston, affords the most gratifying evidence that a large portion of our Northern fellow-citizens are desirous of re-establishing the amicable relations which formerly exisited between the various sections of our widespread Republic, and ought to carry conviction to every unprejudiced mind that there is but one course to pursue, and that is to aim at a speedy termination of the unfortunate strife which has been devastating the country for nearly four years. Having appealed to arms to decide the question, the weaker party in such a contest must abide the issue of events and cannot dictate terms. But the proclamation of President Lincoln has pointed out the only way in which the United States, with their unexhausted and inexhaustible materials of war, will consent to peace, and one of the largest meetings ever held in this city, on the 28th of December, placed the people of Savannah in the category presented by the Chief Magistrate. The meeting called to-day to convey the thanks of our citizens to the generous donors of the provisions which are to be distributed gratuitously to the needy is the direct fruit of this action, dictated as it was by the reasonable hope of retrieving the mistakes of the past and re-establishing as far as possible the prosperity which once blessed our land. Whatever may be the action of the United States Government in the future, this meeting has to-day a duty to perform to the citizens of New York and Boston in giving expression to the sentiment of the town in relation to the munificent bounty of which it is the grateful recipient. The city is in the same condition as it was when the meeting of the 28th of December was held. The great difficulty is in the fact that the people are without remunerative industrial occupation, which the early opening of our port would speedily relieve. Let us hope that this may be remedied in reasonable time. Meanwhile the contributions of our generous donors are literally a Godsend, for, as the scanty resources of living which were in the city when captured have been gradually consumed, literal starvation stared us in the face. We are now relieved from any immediate fear of this calamity, and have at least respite until the present chaotic elements of our situation shall subside into order. Be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the citizens of Savannah tender their heartfelt gratitude to the Chamber of Commerce of New York, to the New York Commercial Association of the Produce Exchange, and all the liberal citizens of the city of New York, who contributed means to purchase provisions, and also to the New York and Washington Steamship Company, which so generously placed the steam-ship Rebecca Clyde at the service of the committee for the transportation of the provisions hither.

Resolved, That the same acknowledgment is due to the citizens of Boston for their prompt and liberal action in raising contributions and sending out provisions for the relief of our citizens, and also to the owners of the steam-ship Greyhound for their generosity in furnishing transportation for the provisions; and that the place of their meeting in Faneuil Hall, the cradle of American Liberty in the days of our common struggle for independence, was an appropriate one for the renewal of those ties which then bound Massachusetts and Georgia in a common bond. The eloquent and touching letter of the Boston Relief Committee to an unfortunate people is treasured for the children of many a family.

Resolved, That these expressions are not alone an offering from those whose necessities may induce them to accept the bounty so liberally bestowed, but are the wide utterance of a grateful community.

Resolved, That the thanks of the citizens of Savannah are eminently due, and are hereby gratefully returned, to Col. Julian Allen, of New York, for his kindness in offering to advance the funds and to make purchases for the corporate authorities of the city of Savannah, until he could be reimbursed by shipments of rice, and also

for his philantrophic exertions in bringing to the notice of the citizens of New York and Boston the destitute condition of our people, of which he became personally cognizant while among us.

Resolved, That our most cordial thanks are due, and are hereby returned, to Messrs. Archibald Baxter, H. P. Babcock, and Frank Lathrop, the committee on the part of the New York contributors, and to Mr. L. E. Chittenden, and the other owners of the Rebecca Clyde; and to Messrs. H. O. Briggs, W. H. Baldwin, and Henry D. Hyde, committee on the part of the citizens of Boston, who at this inclement season of the year have sacrificed the comforts of home and braved the privations of a winter voyage to fulfill their mission of mercy, and also to Mr. Glidden, and the other owners of the steamer Greyhound, for her gratuitous use in conveying the provisions.

Resolved, That the citizens of Savannah heard with profound regret of the death of the Hon. Edward Everett. His name and fame are the common pride of the country, but the city of Savannah will claim to hold in especial remembrance the fact that the last public act of his life was in behalf of her suffering people, and under circumstances which evinced that the kindness of his heart was not even exceeded by the brilliancy of his intellect. They knew he was great, they feel he was good.

On motion of Mr. A. Wilbur, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That special copies of the proceedings of this meeting be forwarded to his honor the mayor; to the President of the United States; the president of the Chamber of Commerce of the city of New York; the president of the Produce Exchange of New York; to General W. T. Sherman; to Albert G. Browne, esq., Treasury agent; to Col. Julian Allen, of New York; to his honor the mayor of the city of Boston, and the president of the Board of Trade of Boston.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

R. D. ARNOLD,
Mayor of Savannah.
JOHN GAMMELL,
Secretary.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
January 30, 1865—11 a. m.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: My headquarters are out five miles from yours. I find the road excellent, for the most part high and sandy, very much like the road you traveled from Millen to Station No. 2. The road was obstructed about a mile ahead, and about four miles farther on the milldam (McTier's) was cut and the road said to be flooded. Just in my rear is the cross-road to McPhersonville. We have picked up about forty head of cattle; scarcely any forage, however. General Blair's corps is now going into camp.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
In the Field, S. C., January 30, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that a party of rebels, some twenty in number, have been seen on the road between this place and Pocotaligo or Salkehatchie. One man was fired upon and his horse

shot, and I fear an ambulance captured. If you send me any dispatches please send them well escorted. I shall patrol and picket well to the rear.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
In the Field, S. C., January 30, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: General Logan has gone into camp, his head of column being in McPhersonville. General Blair's escort in reconnoitering the country came upon some forty rebels at Tennant's Branch, drove them off and crossed the creek. The report I made to you concerning the breaking of the dam was a mistake. The rebels made an attempt to break it but failed. The rebels are reported in force at Broxton's Bridge (the next this side of Rivers' Post-Office Bridge), with some works beyond the Salkehatchie. Inclosed please find the Charleston Mercury for January 23, 1865.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Pocotaligo, S. C., January 30, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: The general-in-chief desires me to say that he is waiting anxiously to hear from Major-General Slocum, in order that he may know that all is ready, and will then make orders for moving. General Slocum has orders to report his readiness. The general wishes you to hold your command in readiness and prepared to reach Hickory Hill Post-Office the next march; also to have General Blair reconnoiter, with a view of learning if there be a practicable road for communication and marching from McPhersonville to Robertsville. There are a lot of recruits, &c., here that will report to you to-night or in the morning. The general says if you have arms you may put them to duty, but if not and cannot make good use of them, you may return them to Beaufort if you wish. The general does not wish you to move beyond your present position until all are ready and orders made.

I am, general, with respect, &c.,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 30, 1865.

Capt. SAMUEL L. TAGGART,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: Inclosed please find recommendation concerning Captain Bedford. I like your General Orders, No. 5, except the last paragraph, to which I am afraid the War Department will make some objections.

It would have been better to have stopped with the word absence. I have, however, such confidence in you, captain, as to believe you will in no case exceed the authority necessary to the public service. I have recommended Captain Bedford to be mustered out of service, because he did not come straight to me, and I understand has intimated his wish to leave the service sooner than come in the field. From what I have heard, I presume General Meagher will be down with about 8,000 men belonging to our army. Please consult with General Foster as to a place for encamping them, and hold them ready to join me at the first opportunity. Ask General Meagher to look particularly as to completeness in equipment, discipline, and drill. Please write me a note whenever you send any papers, communicating with me freely and confidentially as you choose.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 29, 1865.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to recommend that Capt. Wimer Bedford, assistant adjutant-general, be mustered out of the U. S. service. Captain Bedford has done his duty well, but now, I understand, prefers some other than field service. There is no necessity for his services in my adjutant's office, except in the field.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 7.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
In the Field, S. C., January 30, 1865.

Corps commanders will issue stringent orders with reference to foraging during the campaign, a copy of which will be sent to these headquarters, limiting the number of foragers and reporting daily the name of the officer in charge of the foraging party of each brigade, who will be held strictly accountable for all abuses of his authority or improper conduct of the men under his command. All firing by foraging parties other than that against the enemy must be prohibited, as it would be impossible to determine whether it was occasioned by skirmishing with the enemy or the shooting of hogs, cattle, &c.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., January 30, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: A man just reports that the rebels are on our road in the rear near the forks of the road leading to McPhersonville; they cap-

tured a wagon and killed the horse of this man; they are dressed in our uniform. I have sent General Smith's mounted men after them. My understanding was that John E. Smith's division was at McPhersonville; he certainly cannot be, or the rebels could not be on this road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
In the Field, January 30, 1865.

[Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:]

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that General Logan's headquarters are at McPhersonville. Several communications have been received from there this afternoon. He suggests that these depredations may have been committed by some of our own men.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., January 30, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: General Force reports that he sent two regiments to the Salkehatchie, which they succeeded in reaching by wading through a swamp four feet deep. They built fires and chopped timber, making as much noise as possible to attract the enemy's attention, but failed to see any of them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
January 30, 1865.

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM E. STRONG,
Assistant Inspector-General and Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: General Blair requests me to give you the result of the reconnaissance sent to McTier's Mill, about three miles in advance of our present position. The advance (cavalry) first struck the enemy about half a mile this side of the mill, and drove them without any trouble beyond the stream and swamp. As near as I could determine from information given by citizens there were less than 100 rebels all told; we did not see more than twenty or thirty. There has been a force of about 100 encamped near that place for some time, consisting of three companies of South Carolina cavalry and one company of Wheeler's scouts, under Captains Smart, Lowry, and Campbell; all under Colonel Colcock. They were under orders to cross the river at Broxton's Bridge, about twenty miles above this point, and move down the river toward Salkehatchie bridge, whenever we attempted

to cross at that point. This citizen is now under the impression they will cross at this bridge and attempt to hold it. They had two pieces of artillery with them, but it was sent away some days ago. He has not heard of any infantry on this side of the river; thinks Wheeler is over to our front and left. He says they all talked as though they expected us to cross the river and attack Charleston. A small bridge across the creek was burned, but will be repaired before morning. We have two regiments out there to hold the position. The general sent two regiments to make a demonstration at the river, but we have not received any report from them yet.

A. HICKENLOOPER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Inspector-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
January 30, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: Major-General Blair directs that you picket well down the road leading to the Salkehatchie River, a short distance beyond your camp. About twenty rebels are lurking round the forks of that road and you may be able to catch some of them in the morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 23. } *In the Field, S. C., January 30, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

III. This command will move forward at — o'clock to-morrow in the following order: First, First Brigade; second, Battery Fifteenth Ohio; third, Second Brigade; ambulances and trains in usual order.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 10. } *In the Field, January 30, 1865.*

I. During the present campaign all orders regulating the march from Atlanta to Savannah, Ga., will remain in force. Foraging parties will be at once organized by brigade commanders, but greater precaution will be necessary for their safety. They will receive their instructions each morning from brigade commanders, to whom they must report on their return at night with their whole number of men. Rations will be issued in proportion to the amount brought in by the foragers.

II. The idea that the people of South Carolina are any different or any more hostile to our Government than those of any other State is, I have no doubt, by this time dispelled. We find here about the same class of people as in Georgia, and I am sure all good soldiers who have wives, sisters, and mothers at home will leave a fair share of provisions for their maintenance.

III. The firing of guns must at once be stopped. A general court-martial will be convened and will be called together nightly, or as often as necessary, and men found firing guns, straggling, entering houses, pillaging, or committing any other misdemeanors will be summarily punished. The importance of carefully husbanding our rations cannot be too strongly impressed upon the minds of all. Better to go a little short all the time than be entirely without at the close. All orders issued on the march in which the troops are interested should be read, either at halts or, which is preferable, before starting on the morning after their reception.

By order of Brig. Gen. Giles A. Smith:

AD. WARE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Robertsville, S. C., January 30, 1865.

Brig. Gen. N. J. JACKSON:

The major-general commanding the corps directs that you send at daylight to-morrow morning the whole of Colonel Selfridge's brigade to assist in repairing the road from the upper landing, on the Savannah River, to the bridge (along the river).

* * * * * * *

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 2.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH, 1ST SEP. BRIG.,
Morris Island, S. C., January 30, 1865.

Brigadier-general commanding thanks Capt. John A. Hennessy, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, and the officers and men of his command for their energetic and efficient service in Charleston Harbor during the past two months. The brigadier-general especially commends the bold and spirited enterprise of the night of January 19, by which rebel steamer was driven aground near Fort Sumter, in a position which enabled our batteries to destroy her.

By order of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig:

J. W. DICKINSON,
Capt., 21st U. S. Colored Troops and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Savannah, Ga., January 30, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. GROVER,
Commanding District of Savannah, Department of the South:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to state that he desires the recruiting of negroes in this city to be vigorously pushed forward, and that you offer every facility to Brevet Brigadier-General Littlefield, general superintendent volunteer recruiting service of the department, in the establishment of recruiting offices here for

that purpose. General Littlefield has been instructed to take no men from any of the departments of the army, those connected with the fire department of this city, nor those now engaged in the forwarding of supplies for General Sherman's army, left behind by him; but he is not to refuse to receive any who present themselves and desire to be enlisted. If any trouble arises from men so presenting themselves for enlistment, in consequence of their services being required in the department where employed, their places must be supplied by able-bodied negroes who are now in the city, apparently idle. If necessary these men must be pressed into the service as laborers, &c.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Savannah, Ga., January 30, 1865.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. M. S. LITTLEFIELD,
General Superintendent Volunteer Recruiting Service,
Department of the South, Savannah, Ga.:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to state that, having come to this city on his verbal orders for the purpose of enlisting negroes for the new regiments now being organized in this department, you will limit the enlistment somewhat until the supplies for Major-General Sherman's army, left behind by him, are all forwarded, merely making preliminary arrangements for the purpose of opening recruiting offices in the city, when the enlistments will be vigorously pushed forward. You have authority to go so far at present as to enlist all able-bodied negroes that are not in the employ of any of the departments of the army or connected with the fire department of this city. You are not, however, to refuse any who come forward and request to be enlisted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Savannah, Ga., January 30, 1865.

Brig. Gen. I. N. PALMER,
Commanding District of North Carolina, New Berne, N. C.:

GENERAL: Major-General Schofield, with the whole of the Twenty-third Corps, has been ordered east from Tennessee to operate in North Carolina, and is now on his way to Beaufort, N. C. His force consists of 21,000 effectives; you will at once prepare to receive them. General Schofield while operating in North Carolina is to have command of all the troops in that State. His operations will be directed up the railroad toward Goldsborough and Raleigh, and also probably toward Wilmington. I wish you to have as full and complete information as you can procure in respect to the enemy's force, condition of the roads toward Goldsborough, and the best way to get possession of the railroad without affording the enemy a chance to destroy it. A construction corps, under General McCallum, will be ordered from here to put

the railroad in perfect order, to change the gauge to five feet, and to supply it with locomotives and cars. It will be necessary for you to have all your force ready to take the field immediately on General Schofield's arrival. I send fuller instructions for General Schofield, which I desire you will deliver as soon as you arrive at Beaufort.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Savannah, Ga., January 30, 1865.

COMMANDING GENERAL U. S. FORCES,
Mouth of Cape Fear River, N. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that Major-General Schofield, with the whole of the Twenty-third Corps, has been ordered east from Tennessee, and is now on his way for Beaufort, N. C. He will operate in North Carolina. This is to inform you of this fact, and that Major-General Schofield is to have command of all the forces in North Carolina, operating in connection with General Sherman's movements, and in obedience to his orders. Until such times as you receive orders from General Schofield you will act upon your present orders, and in case any new circumstances arise to vary them you will act according to your best judgment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Department of the South.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Savannah, Ga., January 30, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose to you a copy of a letter of instruction from Major-General Sherman to me.* By it you will see that you are to operate in North Carolina, in connection with the movements of General Sherman through South Carolina, and to be prepared to receive him at Goldsborough, N. C., having the railroad from Beaufort up in perfect order, so that his army may be quickly supplied while operating in North Carolina. You are to have command of all the troops in the State. These include General Palmer's forces, originally in the District of North Carolina, and General Terry's force, at the mouth of Cape Fear River. General Palmer has been ordered to prepare for the reception of your force, and to obtain all the necessary information respecting the enemy's force, the condition of the roads toward Goldsborough and the best way to get possession of the railroad without giving the enemy a chance to destroy it. When I marched to Goldsborough to destroy the railroad there in December, 1863 [1862], my force consisted of 12,000 men, and I succeeded in accomplishing the object against superior forces by deceiving the enemy as to the route. I marched about half the way to Kinston upon the direct road, then throwing forward a cavalry force directly toward Kinston to conceal

* See 29th, p. 163.

the movement, I struck off to the left, and succeeded in reaching the passage of the Southwest Creek, at what is called the fourth crossing, before the enemy could concentrate to oppose it. Southwest Creek has four crossings, one between the main road and the mouth of the creek. The creek here has firm banks, and is favorable for throwing a bridge across and forcing a passage. The second crossing is where the main road to Kinston crosses, and is very unfavorable, as the enemy can hold the narrow causeway, which is a milldam, along which the road passes, with a comparatively small force. In forcing a passage in this vicinity the crossing should be made below the dam, between that and the mouth of the creek. The crossings, three and four, higher up the stream, are more unfavorable, unless secured by surprise, on account of the marshy nature of the banks on one side or the other.

We fought the battle of Kinston between the creek and the river, and pursued so rapidly after breaking the enemy as to secure the bridge crossing the river into the town of Kinston. I then made a feint to advance up the road to Goldsborough, on the north side of the river. This, however, is a difficult route to take if the enemy be in strong force, as the road crosses three or four creeks, behind which the enemy had, even at that time, provided strong defenses. After feinting, therefore, toward Goldsborough, on the north side, I recrossed the bridge and advanced rapidly up the south bank. The road here is higher, sandier, and altogether better than that on the north bank. There are no bridges on the river until between Kinston and Goldsborough, and only one ford at extreme low water a few miles below White Hall. There are no defiles on the road that cannot readily be forced. The country is open and good. Upon arriving at Goldsborough the river can be crossed either on the railroad bridge, to be in possession of the town, or by the country bridge, which is about half a mile above the railroad bridge. I have ascertained since that time the enemy have erected stronger works at Kinston, and they may also have erected works to defend the bridges at Goldsborough. Both, however, can be turned by taking a more circuitous march in attacking either place. The railroad bridge at Kinston was partially destroyed by the rebels, and about two miles and a half of the railroad between it and Core Creek was taken up. The bridge at Core Creek was destroyed by our troops, but General Palmer ought to be able to rebuild it by the time you get there. General McCallum, with a corps of several hundred railroad constructionists, has been ordered to North Carolina to put the road from Beaufort to Goldsborough in perfect repair, to change the gauge to five feet, and to provide new locomotives and cars. While engaged in this work he must have the whole control of the management of the road and of the shops from which he will have to depend for the necessary repairs. If General McCallum be absent, Colonel Wright, his assistant, will exercise a like control, under your orders. The object is to have the road repaired and fitted in every respect, so as to convey rapidly sufficient supplies to Goldsborough for General Sherman's army when it arrives there. The extension will eventually be made to Raleigh, also toward Wilmington and Weldon.

General Sherman expects you to get possession of the railroad to Goldsborough as soon as possible, and have its reconstruction commenced and completed. If you cannot occupy the whole road, by reason of the enemy's strength, you must occupy as high up as possible—at any rate, to get possession of it as far as Kinston. If the enemy's force has moved down in South Carolina to meet General Sherman you will not follow, but take advantage of the opportunity afforded

to seize both Raleigh and Wilmington. General Sherman has moved to-day from Pocotaligo with the Right Wing of his army. The Left Wing also marches to-day from the vicinity of Sister's Ferry, on the Savannah River. His army is as strong in every way and in as good spirits as when it left Savannah. He will move toward Columbia, turning Branchville, and cut all the railroad around about Columbia and Camden. He may or may not attack Branchville. After devastating the State as much as he intends he will strike for Goldsborough or Raleigh if you succeed in getting them. I hardly think he will come in at Wilmington, although circumstances may induce him to do so. He may also possibly touch sea coast at Georgetown before going into North Carolina. He will probably be at Goldsborough or in communication with you between the 5th and 15th of March. While he is moving in the interior I shall operate with all the movable force that I have along the coast in the form of demonstrations, and if the enemy are fools enough to leave any point unguarded we hope to be wise enough to profit by it. My force, however, is very small, only 15,000 effectives, nearly all of which is absorbed in garrisons. I can only move a small division of 3,000 men, under Brigadier-General Hatch, in his co-operating movements along the coast. I send Major Anderson, of my staff, who will explain to you any details that I have omitted to write with respect to your movements, my own force, General Sherman's intended movements, and my own.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Department of the South.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., *January 30, 1865.*
(Received 10 a. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

Your dispatch of yesterday came too late for reply by mail. I wished to say that the board I am on has nothing to do now, as Ames' guns will not be ready for some weeks. I would like to be relieved from it for more important duty.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 30, 1865—11.50 a. m.*

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Brooklyn, N. Y.:

The Secretary of War directs that you repair to Hilton Head and relieve General Foster in command of the Department of the South. General Foster has a leave of absence.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., *January 30, 1865.*
(Received 2.46 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK:

Your dispatch ordering me to the Department of the South is received.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *January 31, 1865—7 a. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

Please inform General Schofield that since my absence Mahone's division, about 5,000 strong, has gone south. My opinion is, however, they will not stop at Wilmington. It is important that Schofield should move without delay.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *January 31, 1865—11.30 a. m.*
(Received 1.20 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Please constitute North Carolina a department for present purposes, Major-General Schofield in command, subject to Sherman's orders. It is impossible for Foster to give orders from Hilton Head as well as I can from here. I will give General Schofield all his orders and instructions until Sherman gets in reach of him.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *January 31, 1865—5.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

The Department of North Carolina, with Schofield in command, has been ordered as you requested.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 12. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, January 31, 1865.*

The Military Department of North Carolina is hereby constituted to consist of the State of North Carolina, which is detached from the Department of the South. Major-General Schofield is assigned to the command. The department will, until further instructions, be subject to the orders and control of Major-General Sherman.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 49. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, January 31, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

47. The telegraphic order of January 30, 1865, from this Department, directing Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore, U. S. Volunteers, to repair to Hilton Head, S. C., and relieve Major-General Foster, U. S. Volunteers, in command of the Department of the South, is hereby confirmed.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington City, January 31, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN, *Savannah, Ga.:*

GENERAL: The arrival of your army on the Atlantic coast increases very considerably the water transportation required of this department, and in view of this fact I beg to suggest that your chief quartermaster be reminded of the importance of ordering to New York all sea steamers at the earliest moment they can be spared. I am satisfied that vessels are detained at different points, unloading and from other causes, longer than they should be. I would also respectfully call your attention to the great saving that could be made on freights if a reasonable notice could be given to the department of the stores required to be shipped. The commissary department should give thirty days' notice of the amount of subsistence stores required for your army, when they could be sent in sailing vessels at half the expense. At present nearly every requisition is accompanied by an urgent request that the stores or troops be sent forward with the utmost dispatch, when, of course, steamers have to be employed. Very large coastwise movements of troops during the past month and at the present time absorb nearly every sea-going steamer of the Northern ports. No sooner is a steamer built by private enterprise for a particular line than, under urgent demand, it is taken up by the Quartermaster's Department.

As an instance of the great expenditures arising from these sudden movements I refer to the steamer Monterey, which was ordered to the Department of the South with cargo of commissary stores. She is of 1,030 tons burden, and was absent over fifty days at an expense of about $25,000, besides the cost of the coal she consumed. She lay many days idle in the harbors and rivers of the coast of South Carolina and Georgia, made one or two trips from Savannah to Beaufort with wagons and ambulances, and cost the United States for her service some $25,000. Every idle day cost $463.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster and Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, January 31, 1865.

General HOWARD:

General Slocum has not yet reported. I don't see how any of the enemy can be to your rear. If so, they should be caught; for there is no escape for them except into swamps, where our men can follow on foot. The commanding officer at Coosawhatchie says negroes just from Barnwell report that our troops engaged the enemy over about Lawtonville and were driving them rapidly beyond. We will start to-morrow, anyhow.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
In the Field, January 31, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN, *Comdg. Mil. Div. of the Mississippi:*

GENERAL: General Force has been continuing a reconnaissance with two regiments to my right rear, along the Salkehatchie. By cutting

trees and other demonstrations he has succeeded in drawing the fire of a rebel battery, which will account for the occasional firing. General Logan finds his road badly obstructed. He has cleared out about five miles of it to-day. He finds a road leading to the left from Brailsfordville, but it is swampy and bad. A road to the left of General Blair's front has a bridge destroyed. I have concluded to keep the detachment of recruits, mostly for Kilpatrick, though but few of them have arms. I will use them for fatigue duty, clearing away obstructions, &c.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 8. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE, *In the Field, S. C., January 31, 1865.*

General Orders, No. 4, dated from headquarters at Beaufort, S. C., January 24, 1865, was issued under a misapprehension of the wishes of the commanding general. While he entertains a high regard for the young men to whom the medals of honor are awarded, and believes they deserve substantial reward, yet, as there is no established method of extending the same principle of distribution from his own headquarters to the entire army, the said order is suspended until the matter has been further considered.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 27. } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE, *In the Field, January 31, 1865.*

I. The following will be the order of march to-morrow, commencing at 7 a. m.: The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. J. A. Logan commanding, will march to Hickory Hill Post-Office, the head of his column reaching to the intersection of the road leading to Whippy Swamp Post-Office. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will move along the Salkehatchie road, crossing Whippy Swamp with at least one division. The wagon train of these headquarters will follow the leading division of General Blair's corps. The bridge train will follow the division second in column of General Blair's corps. In case anything should interrupt communication with Major-General Logan's command, he will endeavor to reach Angley's Post-Office in the next day's march, to which there are two routes open to him, one by the way of Whippy Swamp Post-Office and the Whippy Swamp road, the other by the Coosawhatchie Swamp road and the road leading from Duck Branch Post-Office to Angley's Post-Office.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 22. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS, *McPhersonville, S. C., January 31, 1865.*

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V. The march will be resumed by this division in the direction of Hickory Hill Post-Office at 7 a. m. to-morrow, February 1, the Second

Brigade having the advance. Brevet Brigadier-General Woods (whose brigade marches in rear) will detail a rear guard and escort for the trains as required by Special Orders, No. 20, January 29, from these headquarters. Lieutenant MacCahill will move five of his ordnance wagons immediately in rear of the troops, four to be loaded with infantry ammunition, the remaining one with artillery.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. Woods:

FRED. H. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., January 31, 1865.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM T. CLARK,
Commanding First Brigade:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you hold one regiment infantry in readiness to move, at a moment's notice, out on road with pioneer corps, under direction of Captain Klostermann, chief engineer Fifteenth Army Corps.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. M. BUDLONG,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
Near McPhersonville, S. C., January 31, 1865.

Capt. S. M. BUDLONG,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the arrival of Colonel Tourtellotte, in charge of all transportation, detachments, &c., left at Beaufort, S. C.

I am, very respectfully, &c.,

WM. T. CLARK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
In the Field, January 31, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR, Jr.,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Some recruits belonging to the cavalry, Twentieth and Fourteenth Corps, have just arrived. I will assign officers to command them, and wish you would assign them to one of your divisions until we can turn them over to their respective commands. You can draw on them for fatigue duty, &c.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 28. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., January 31, 1865.

* * * * * * *

III. The following are the orders for the movement to-morrow: First. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will move in advance,

starting at 7 a. m. Second. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will move his command forward at 7 a. m. on the direct road. Third. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will follow General Mower, being prepared to move at 8 o'clock. Fourth. Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will follow General Force, being prepared to move at 9 o'clock. Fifth. The bridge train will move in rear of the Third Division. Sixth. The train of these headquarters and of department headquarters will follow the First Division.

IV. The train of the Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will until further orders move with the train of the First Division.

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By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
January 31, 1865.

Capt. C. CADLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that I took at noon two regiments to make a demonstration before the rebel works guarding the crossing at the burnt pontoons. The work appears to stand nearly 700 yards beyond the river. The space between it and the river, and for 100 yards on this side, has been cleared by felling timber. Going in advance with a staff officer and half a dozen of the Twentieth Illinois into this open space we drew their fire, and found they had one gun and apparently less than 100 men. I then pushed forward two companies of sharpshooters (one each from Sixteenth and Seventeenth Wisconsin) to the bank of the river. The rebels promptly re-enforced the fort with another gun and a regiment with its colors. Silencing their fire, I set forty axmen to work felling large trees on the edge of the open space, but out of sight of the work. At the sound of the axes the rebels opened again with their two guns and extended their musketry farther down the river. Their aim, however, was made uncertain by our skirmish fire. At 3.30 I recalled the skirmishers and sent them and the axmen back to camp, as they had to wade up to their hips to get to the river. The regiments meanwhile, remaining on the bank in an open field, nearly a mile from the river, had made two piles of rails in lines to represent a division camp in two lines. I sent a company down to the river to prevent the rebels from crossing over and learning the deception. I then returned to camp at sunset, leaving instructions to light the fires at dark, to move back to camp at 6.30, and as the troops move to sound tattoo with bugles and field music disposed along the lines so as to represent the position of such music in a division camp. I left Captain Adams of my staff with the two regiments. No one was hurt.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. F. FORCE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Pocotaligo, January 31, 1865—9 a. m.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Sister's Ferry:

Howard moves Wednesday morning via Hickory Hill and Rivers' Bridge. Communicate with me at Hickory Hill and follow as rapidly as possible by the old Orangeburg road, by Lawtonville, Duck Branch Post-Office, and Buford's Bridge. Let Kilpatrick's cavalry keep on your left front. I have not heard of your crossing the Savannah yet, but negroes report you pushing the enemy through Lawtonville. Make the most possible of this fine weather.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Robertsville, S. C., January 31, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: My command, excepting Geary's division with the Fourteenth Corps, arrived at this place day before yesterday. Your dispatch was received the same night, and by much effort I got it through to General Slocum, who happened to be at the bluff on the river five miles below. I found the road from this to the river under water from one to three feet deep for one mile and a half, with four bridges gone. The point where the road from the Georgia side reaches the river is about three miles below the point where the road from this side strikes the river, and from that down the road is through low ground, now overflowed the whole distance, and for three-eighths of a mile at least four to six feet deep. The pontoon bridge is laid below, and parties on both ends are at work on the road. It cannot be made passable, in the opinion of General Slocum, within four days. The river is under a second freshet, which has been very high, but is subsiding. I was at General Slocum's headquarters yesterday. All the troops had reached the high ground on the south side of the river in good condition, and the transports were up with abundant supplies.

I found a portion of Wheeler's cavalry here, but drove them out without difficulty. Prisoners and deserters report that he has three divisions near us, above, with his headquarters at Lawtonville. I attempted to communicate with you on Sunday, but my messenger could not get through.

This dispatch is sent at the instance of General Slocum.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Robertsville, S. C., January 31, 1865.

The indiscriminate pillage of houses is disgraceful and demoralizing to this army. The houses in this vicinity, of free negroes even, have been stripped of the necessary bedclothes and of family apparel. Brigade commanders will at once take measures to put a stop to these

infamous practices. No foraging or other parties will be permitted to leave camp, except in charge of a commissioned officer, who will be held responsible for the good conduct of the men under his charge.

To secure the observance of this order the regular daily company roll calls will be rigidly enforced and every man absent without permission will be reported through regimental and brigade commanders to division commanders, and will be placed in arrest by his regimental commander for punishment. No department staff officer will permit an enlisted man or employé in his department to leave camp without a pass countersigned by the brigade or division commander. All stragglers without written permits will be turned over to the provost-marshal for immediate punishment.

The brevet major-general commanding the corps expects the hearty co-operation of all officers to put a stop to practices disgraceful to our arms and shocking to humanity.

This order will be communicated not only to the troops of the line, but all quartermasters, commissaries, ordnance, ambulance, and all other officers, and to all men under their charge, whether civilians or enlisted men, and they will be held responsible that not a man of their commands leaves camp without the permits of their respective military commanders.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, January 31, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Coosawhatchie:

SIR: I send you four cipher dispatches* for General Slocum. Send one via Purysburg, another by some other route, and keep two, one of which to be sent back to him by the first courier who comes from him, and the last by another who may follow. Slocum should now be at Robertsville. His troops left Savannah on the 25th, and two divisions were then on this side, at Purysburg. I may move to-morrow for Hickory Hill Post-Office.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 31, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that I have just returned from Savannah, where I saw an officer just from Sister's Ferry and obtained from him the following report:

The bridge across the Savannah River at Sister's Ferry was completed on the night of the 30th and a few men crossed over it. A new approach had to be made, the old approach having been much washed by the water, and the causeway filled with torpedoes. On the north

* See Sherman to Slocum, p. 184.

side of the river the marsh extended for a mile and three-quarters, which will have to be corduroyed. This General Slocum expected to accomplish to-day, and hoped to be able to cross General Kilpatrick's cavalry to the north side to-morrow (February 1). He had communicated with General Williams on the 30th instant in the direction of Robertsville, and obtained the report that the enemy was in slight force in that direction, only small bodies of Wheeler's cavalry being encountered. General Slocum had encountered on the south side of the river only Iverson's brigade of cavalry. General Slocum proposed to advance to-morrow, Kilpatrick's cavalry leading, provided the causeway on the north side of the marsh could be completed in time. I learned that the supplies were reaching Sister's Ferry, but, owing to bad management somewhere, rather slowly. General Easton complains that it is owing to his lack of boats. I immediately sent the Naushon, and also gave him the Golden Gate, although at serious inconvenience. Brevet Major Gouraud has just returned from North Carolina. He met Generals Grant, Schofield, and Rawlins at Morehead City. None of General Schofield's corps had yet arrived. Several hundred of the construction corps had arrived. I shall also, in obedience to your orders, send forward the construction corps from here immediately. I will also carry out your directions with regard to demonstrations as completely as possible. I do not propose to withdraw any of General Hatch's command at present, but to send the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers and a few hundred men from this place under General Potter to do all he can in demonstrations toward the railroad, and also, finally, to advance on James Island. I send also a paper of the 26th instant, one of the latest received. General Hatch will give any details I may have omitted to write.

Very respectfully, yours,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 31, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division, &c.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to present for your consideration the orders and instructions received from the War Department with respect to the colored recruiting rendezvous in this department, and to ask respectfully that you may change paragraph 5, Special Field Orders, No. 15, current series, &c., so as to leave the duties of enlistments and organization of negro troops as they were established by the above orders and instructions. The reasons for the above are as follows:

First. The orders from the War Department, copies of which are inclosed, from Nos. 1 to 6,* show that Brevet Brigadier-General Littlefield is regularly appointed as general superintendent of volunteer recruiting service for this department, and has his rendezvous established at Hilton Head, in accordance with above orders from the War Department.

Second. That by said orders and by the letter of Major-General Halleck, of December 21, 1864, a copy of which is inclosed,* the power is

* Omitted.

conferred upon me to organize all the colored men in the department into regiments, and to appoint their officers for confirmation by the President, and to have them carefully drilled and exercised.

Third. Acting under your Special Field Orders, No. 15, Brevet Major-General Saxton has assumed control of all the recruiting, and is disposed to question the power delegated to me by the above orders. He has taken action in the calling of a mass-meeting of the colored men in Savannah antagonistic to the wishes that I understood you to express with regard to delaying such action until after all the quartermaster's and commissary's work necessary to the forwarding of your supplies had been completed. By haranguing said meeting, in company with the Rev. Mr. French, and informing the blacks that he intended establishing a camp of instruction for negro regiments in Savannah, he has tended to produce confusion, excitement, and an erroneous impression upon the colored people and upon the white inhabitants of the city which is prejudicial to the good order and well-being of the city. General Grover objects to it as tending to confusion and affording opportunities, under cover of which incendiary attempts of secret spies may be made.

In addition to the above, General Saxton, also in opposition to General Grover's wishes, has appointed another mass-meeting of the negroes in Savannah on Thursday next. One consequence of this ill-judged action on General Saxton's part is, that the negroes generally prefer idleness to either work or enlisting, and only about 450 recruits have presented themselves thus far. It is reported that in private conversation General Saxton expressed a determination to carry out fully his ill-judged course, and that he could have the head cut off of any officer who opposed him. I would earnestly and respectfully urge upon the major-general commanding, the necessity of changing paragraph 5 in Special Field Orders, No. 15, by omitting the last sentence, so as to leave the whole subject of recruiting where it was placed by the orders and instructions inclosed.

I cannot avoid expressing the conviction that this course is absolutely necessary to prevent serious interference on the part of General Saxton with the duties and prerogatives both of myself and the general officers under me.

Again earnestly soliciting your favorable attention to the above request, at your earliest convenience,

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding Department of the South.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 31, 1865.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. M. S. LITTLEFIELD,
Commanding Hilton Head District:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you will order 300 men of the One hundred and forty-fourth New York Volunteers to be in readiness to embark at a moment's notice with ten days' rations, blankets, overcoats, and sixty rounds of ammunition on the person of each soldier, and forty rounds extra in cartridge-boxes.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., January 31, 1865.

Lieut. Col. CHARLES B. FOX,
Commanding Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Vols., Fort Jackson:

COLONEL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to state that a steamer will be sent for your entire command to-morrow. You will have your command in readiness to embark without delay. You are to proceed to Morris Island and will be required to participate at once in active operations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 31, 1865.

Col. C. H. VAN WYCK,
Commanding First Brigade:

COLONEL: You will break up camp and move within the intrenchments near General Sherman's headquarters this morning. The left regiment will rest near the road leading to Barnwell, the right regiment at a point designated this morning. You will picket the road leading toward Barnwell, the railroad, and the high ground near the right regiment. You will establish your headquarters at General Sherman's headquarters.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch:
LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 31, 1865.

Maj. M. F. WEBSTER,
Commanding Battalion Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry:

MAJOR: You will establish your camp near the Pocotaligo railroad station.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch:
LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Pocotaligo, S. C., January 31, 1865.

Lieut. E. H. TITUS:

LIEUTENANT: You will establish the camp of your battery at the intrenchments made by General Sherman's army, between Colonel Hallowell's present headquarters, near Pocotaligo.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch:
LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Savannah, Ga., January 31, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. GROVER,
Commanding District of Savannah, Department of the South:

GENERAL: In order to carry out the orders of the War Department of December 29, 1864, a copy of which will be sent you from Hilton Head, I desire that you make arrangements to send beyond the lines the families of rebel officers and soldiers now in this city. You will actually commence to send them as soon as you can make it convenient to do so and a proper understanding has been had as to where they may be delivered. I shall write to General Hardee and request his decision upon the latter point. I shall suggest to him some point on the Savannah River, near Sister's Ferry, or as high up as the boats can go with safety.

You will also make arrangements to send over the lines, whenever it becomes necessary, any person who by word or act displays a treasonable disposition or any intention to insult the officers, soldiers, or the Government of the United States. I prefer in all cases, after making arrangements for sending parties beyond the lines, that before actually doing so you submit for my approval a list of all such persons, with the reasons for their being sent beyond the lines. These reasons should be stated in full, so that the papers and files of my office shall give a complete history of the whole transaction.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *January 31, 1865.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

Please inform me when General Schofield will leave Washington. I want to send his instructions to Fort Monroe by a staff officer to deliver them as the general passes.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 31, 1865—8.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

General Schofield will leave with first detachment from Alexandria. We shall attempt to open passage to-morrow. Will telegraph in time to have dispatches reach Schofield at Fort Monroe.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *January 31, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Army of the Ohio:

I have requested by telegraph that for present purposes North Carolina be erected into a department, and that you be placed in command

of it, subject to Major-General Sherman's orders. Of course you will receive orders from me direct until such time as General Sherman gets within communicating distance of you. This obviates the necessity of my publishing the order which I informed you would meet you at Fortress Monroe. If the order referred to should not be published from the Adjutant-General's Office, you will regard these instructions as your authority to assume command of all the troops in North Carolina, dating all official communications "Headquarters Army of the Ohio." Your headquarters will be in the field and with the portion of the army where you feel yourself most needed. In the first move you will go to Cape Fear River. Your movements are intended as co-operative with Sherman through the States of South and North Carolina. The first point to be attained is to secure Wilmington. Goldsborough will then be your objective point, moving either from Wilmington or New Berne, or both, as you deem best. Should you not be able to reach Goldsborough, you will advance on the line or lines of railway connecting that place with the sea coast, as near to it as you can, building the road behind you.

The enterprise under you has two objects. The first is to give General Sherman material aid, if needed, in his march north; the second, to open a base of supplies for him on his line of march. As soon, therefore, as you can determine which of the two points, Wilmington or New Berne, you can best use for throwing supplies from, to the interior, you will commence the accumulation of twenty days' rations and forage for 60,000 men and 20,000 animals. You will get of these as many as you can house and protect to such point in the interior as you may be able to occupy. I believe General Palmer has received some instructions directly from General Sherman on the subject of securing supplies for his army. You can learn what steps he has taken and be governed in your requisitions accordingly. A supply of ordnance stores will also be necessary. Make all of your requisitions upon the chiefs of their respective departments in the field with me at City Point. Communicate with me by every opportunity, and, should you deem it necessary at any time, send a special boat to Fortress Monroe, from which point you can communicate by telegraph. The supplies referred to in these instructions are exclusive of those required by your own command. The movements of the enemy may justify you, or even make it your imperative duty, to cut loose from your base and strike for the interior to aid Sherman. In such case you will act on your own judgment, without waiting for instructions. You will report, however, what you propose doing. The details for carrying out these instructions are necessarily left to you. I would urge, however, if I did not know that you are already fully alive to the importance of it, prompt action. Sherman may be looked for in the neighborhood of Goldsborough any time from the 22d to the 28th of February. This limits your time very materially. If rolling-stock is not secured in the capture of Wilmington it can be supplied from Washington. A large force of railroad men have already been sent to Beaufort, and other mechanics will go to Fort Fisher in a day or two. On this point I have informed you by telegraph.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *January 31, 1865—11.30 a. m.*
(Received 1.20 p. m.)

Major-General SCHOFIELD, *Washington:*

There are about 5,000 troops here belonging to Terry's command, which will be forwarded as rapidly as possible. Mechanics have already gone to Beaufort. They can be transferred to Fort Fisher if you deem it advisable. A pile-driver will leave Annapolis on Thursday for Fort Fisher, with a sufficient force to work it. The pontoon train left here on Sunday.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Washington, D. C., January 31, 1865—1.20 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *City Point, Va.:*

I have received your dispatch of 10 a. m. to the Secretary of War.* General Rucker thinks it will be impossible to get out of the Potomac before Friday or Saturday, but will try to break the ice to-morrow. General Meagher's detachment, about 5,500 strong, is ordered to Annapolis, where there will be transports enough for it. I propose to send all of General Meagher's troops to New Berne and take the Twenty-third Corps to Cape Fear River. Meagher will probably get down first, but will, I presume, not be strong enough for the move against Wilmington. Please inform me if you approve of this arrangement.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *January 31, 1865—7 p. m.*
(Received 7.50 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD, *Washington, D. C.:*

The arrangement you have made to send Meagher's command to New Berne is satisfactory.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 16. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE OHIO, *Washington, D. C., January 31, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

III. The One hundred and eightieth Ohio Infantry is hereby assigned to the First Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, and the commanding officer will report for orders to Brig. Gen. Thomas H. Ruger commanding.

IV. The Twenty-eighth Michigan Infantry is hereby assigned to the First Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, and the commanding officer will report for orders to Brig. Gen. Thomas H. Ruger commanding.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Grant to Stanton, 7 a. m., p. 179.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 31, 1865.*

Major-General AUGUR:

Send General Meagher's division to Annapolis to embark for Fort Fisher, calling at Fort Monroe to inquire for orders from General Grant.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

BENWOOD, *January 31, 1865.*
(Received 5.10 p. m.)

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War:

The last car is loaded and on the way over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. I am just leaving for Washington. There is not a word of truth in any report relative to the freezing of soldiers in Ohio, as far as the Twenty-third Army Corps is concerned. If at all it only applies to some 2,000 or 3,000 arriving some days after from Nashville and going to New York via Pittsburg.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel, in Charge.

Abstract from returns of the U. S. Forces under the immediate command of Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman, U. S. Army, for January 31, 1865.

Command.	Present for duty.*		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
General and staff	16	.....	16	17	.....	.....
7th Company Ohio Sharpshooters	2	68	78	98	.....	.....
1st Michigan Engineers (ten companies)	36	897	1,141	1,444	.....	.....
1st Missouri Engineers (five companies)	14	371	529	618	.....	.....
Army of the Tennessee:						
General and staff	21	.....	21	27	.....	.....
Escort	3	62	115	143	.....	.....
Signal detachment	3	24	27	31	.....	.....
Fifteenth Army Corps (Logan)	760	15,330	18,405	28,472	.....	18
Seventeenth Army Corps (Blair)	459	11,851	13,642	25,302	.....	14
Total Right Wing (Howard)	1,246	27,268	32,210	53,975	.....	32
Army of Georgia:						
General and staff	5	.....	5	7	.....	.....
Pontoniers (Downey)	25	459	730	910	.....	.....
Fourteenth Army Corps (Davis)	578	14,150	16,255	27,653	.....	16
Twentieth Army Corps (Williams)	638	13,432	15,778	28,546	.....	16
Total Left Wing (Slocum)	1,246	28,041	32,768	57,116	.....	32
Cavalry (Kilpatrick)	184	4,289	5,204	9,314	.....	6
Grand total	2,744	60,934	71,946	122,582	.....	70

* For the effective strength, see Part I, p. 42.

Abstract from returns of the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. John G. Foster, U. S. Army, commanding, for January 31, 1865.

[Compiled mainly from subordinate returns.]

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
General headquarters	64	80	125	151	.....	.....
1st New York Engineers (battalion, Place)	7	557	585	600	.....	.....
First Separate Brigade (Schimmelfennig)	59	2,340	3,374	6,543	12	12
Second Separate Brigade (Potter)	28	946	1,244	1,947	.....	2
Third Separate Brigade (Brown)	69	2,024	2,711	3,285	.....	.....
Fourth Separate Brigade (Scammon)	40	1,330	1,680	3,999	.....	.....
District of Savannah (Grover)	135	3,981	4,832	9,038	.....	.....
District of North Carolina (Palmer)	239	6,423	8,356	12,387	101	68
Total*	641	17,681	22,907	37,950	113	82

CITY POINT, VA., *February 1, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

Without much expectation of its reaching you in time to be of any service, I have mailed to you copies of instructions to Schofield and Thomas.† I have informed Schofield by telegraph of the departure of Mahone's division south from the Petersburg front. The troops marched down the Weldon road, and as they apparently went without baggage, it is doubtful whether they have not returned. I was absent from here when they left. Just returned yesterday morning from Cape Fear River. I went there to determine where Schofield's corps had better go to operate against Wilmington and Goldsborough. The instructions with this will inform you of the conclusion arrived at. Schofield was with me and the plan of the movement against Wilmington fully determined before we started back; hence the absence of more detailed instructions to him. He will land one division at Smithville and move rapidly up the south side of the river and secure the Wilmington and Goldsborough Railroad, and with his pontoon train cross into the island south of the city if he can. With the aid of the gunboats there is no doubt but this move will drive the enemy from their position, eight miles east of the city, either back to their inner line or away altogether. There will be a large force on the north bank of Cape Fear ready to follow up and resist the garrison if they should go inside. The railroads of North Carolina are four feet eight inches and a half gauge. I have sent large parties of railroad men there to build them up, and have ordered stock to run them. We have abundance of it idle from the non-use of the Virginia roads. I have taken every precaution to have supplies ready for you wherever you may turn up. I did this before, when you left Atlanta, and regret that they did not reach you promptly when you arrived at salt-water. The fact is, Foster, from physical disability, is entirely unfit for his command. I

*Of the present for duty, here reported, 195 officers and 3,866 men constituted the Coast Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch.

†For Grant to Schofield, January 31, 1865, see p. 189, and for Grant to Thomas, January 31, 1865, see Vol. XLIX, Part I.

would like to change him for a man who can get about and see for himself. Alexander H. Stephens, R. M. T. Hunter, and Judge Campbell are now at my headquarters very desirous of going to Washington to see Mr. Lincoln informally on the subject of peace. The peace feeling within the rebel lines is gaining ground rapidly. This, however, should not relax our energies in the least, but should stimulate us to greater activity. I have received your very kind letter* in which you say you would decline, or are opposed to, promotion. No one would be more pleased at your advancement than I, and if you should be placed in my position, and I put subordinate, it would not change our relations in the least. I would make the same exertions to support you that you have ever done to support me, and I would do all in my power to make our cause win.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 51. } *Washington, February 1, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

63. By direction of the President, Bvt. Lieut. Col. Thomas G. Baylor, U. S. Army, is hereby assigned to duty according to his brevet rank, from December 21, 1864.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Hickory Hill, February 1, 1865—5 p. m.

General HOWARD:

Slocum is a little behind. I don't want Logan to get farther to-morrow than the place marked "Store" near Duck Branch Post-Office. I want to make slow marches till Slocum gets up, or nearly so. Please make your orders accordingly.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Whippy Swamp, S. C., February 1, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

DEAR GENERAL: Your dispatch is just received. The road has been badly obstructed, but we cleared it out without difficulty till we came to Whippy Swamp Creek. The road here for a quarter of a mile was filled with felled trees and six bridges destroyed. The obstructions have been cleared, the bridges rebuilt, the swamp corduroyed in part, and one division (Mower's) on the other side with all its material.

I think if you were here and saw the country and the difficulties in clearing away the obstructions across Whippy Swamp, that [you]

*See January 21, p. 102.

would prefer me to push on to Rivers' Bridge by this route. I expected General Logan would send two divisions via Whippy Swamp Post-Office and two by the lower route, all to meet at Angley's Post-Office, crossing Whippy Swamp at that place. I can push one division of the Seventeenth Corps by the route you suggest, and not be obliged to return; otherwise I shall have to march back some distance and take the other route.

I will inclose you a copy of my order of march as issued, and will send you an officer that you may modify my instructions and let me know.

Lieutenant Taylor was wounded in the skirmish to-day quite severely, but I think not dangerously. The enemy had about 600 cavalry in our front. They took the route to Whippy Swamp Post-Office. We found some forty guarding the crossing here.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 28.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
In the Field, S. C., February 1, 1865.

The following will be the order of march for to-morrow, commencing at 7 a. m.: The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. J. A. Logan commanding, will move to Angley's Post-Office, as indicated in Special Field Orders, No. 27. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will march to Rivers' Bridge, and if possible effect a lodgment on the other side of the river. The wagon train of these headquarters will move in rear of the leading division of General Blair's corps. The bridge train will move in rear of the division second in column of General Blair's corps. These headquarters will be established at or near Rivers' Bridge.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Whippy Swamp, S. C., February 1, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: In accordance with instructions from General Sherman, you will take the lower route by the way of Duck Creek, and halt at the place marked "Store," instead of proceeding to Angley's Post-Office as directed.

With the general's consent, you may push a division up to Rice's house, a point some two miles short of Whippy Swamp Creek.

I will send a division of General Blair along the west bank of the creek to form a junction with your division, and move the other two divisions on to the same road, east of the creek, and open communication across.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 32. } *Hickory Hill Post-Office, S. C., February 1, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

II. Whenever practicable, division commanders will move their troops alongside of their trains, studying always to give the road to their wagons. The column in marching must be kept closed up, and no division should occupy more than its legitimate space in the road when everything is well closed up. A detachment of the pioneer corps will precede the infantry column and clear away a road for its passage alongside of that on which the wagon train is moving. Division commanders will invariably march their commands in four-rank formation; moving in column of twos will only be allowed when necessary to pass a defile or to turn temporary obstructions.

* * * * * * *

By order of Maj. Gen. John A. Logan:

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Hickory Hill Post-Office, S. C., February 1, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that during the skirmishing at Hickory Hill Post-Office to-day, one man of the Ninth Iowa Veteran Infantry (Third Brigade), Sergt. Marshall House, Company F, was severely wounded in the thigh; leg since amputated. No other casualties in this division.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. H. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Sand Hill Church, S. C., February 1, 1865—8 p. m.

Major WOODHULL, &c.:

I have the honor to report that, night overtaking me here with the division in my front still passing, I encamped my division at this point, five miles from Hickory Hill Post-Office. I must ask pardon for referring to the method of marching the foot troops on the flanks of the artillery and trains. My own division was marched by this method all the distance, excepting one day from Atlanta to the Ogeechee River, and found it at all times entirely practicable, by so doing shortening the column by one-half. Thirty men with axes and fifteen without in front of the leading troops can always prepare the roads as fast as troops will march. The infantry in my front to-day was marched, with the exception of a few regiments, in two ranks with long intervals, at same time prolonging the column of one division to five miles, all of which would not interfere with the progress of the troops in rear if this method was used. It also adds greatly to the protection of the trains.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 29. } *In the Field, S. C., February 1, 1865.*

The following are the orders for the movement to-morrow:

1. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel Hughes commanding, will move forward at 7 a. m. on the road they are now on to Whippy [Swamp] Post-Office, there taking the road leading to the road the column is now on.

2. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will move his train across the swamp at 6 a. m., and will move his command forward at 7 a. m., having the advance.

3. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will move forward at 7 a. m., following the First Division.

4. Byt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will move forward at 7 a. m., following the Third Division.

5. The bridge train will follow the Third Division, being prepared to move at 7 o'clock.

The train of department headquarters and of these headquarters will follow the First Division.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Harrison's Plantation, S. C., February 1, 1865.

Capt. C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Seventeenth Army Corps:

SIR: I have endeavored to obtain information since coming over here with regard to the enemy's position on the northeast bank of the Salkehatchie. I have seen but one man who has any knowledge of their position. He states that the rebels have twelve pieces of artillery at Broxton's Bridge, and are fortified there. He also says that ten miles beyond, at Buford's Bridge, they have two pieces of artillery. I will do all I can to obtain further information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. MOWER,
Major-General, U. S. Army, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Whippy Swamp, S. C., February 1, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division, Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say to you that you will bring the brigade of your command that is on the Whippy Swamp Post-Office road across to this road at a sufficiently early hour to-morrow to enable them to march with the command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, on Whippy Swamp, S. C., February 1, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE, *Commanding Third Division:*

GENERAL: I am instructed by Major-General Blair to inform you that the brigade from your command ordered up with the mounted infantry

on the left-hand road will continue on that road to-morrow to Whippy Swamp Post-Office, and from there strike across to our road.

Instructions will be sent them to-night for their movement. Please inform me which brigade it is.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SISTER'S FERRY, *February 1, 1865.*

Major-General SHERMAN:

Your communication of yesterday received. I directed Williams to communicate to you our situation. The Savannah River is ten feet above its usual depth. The country on each bank is flooded. I have a bridge across the river and a large force at work on bridges, but have not yet been able to cross even a cavalryman to the high land. I can now reach within half a mile of it, and river is falling. I hope to get Kilpatrick over this evening. My efforts shall be made to push as rapidly as possible. Our road from the ferry is lined with torpedoes as far as we have gone. Two men were killed yesterday, and over thirty torpedoes were dug up yesterday by working party.

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Hickory Hill, S. C., February 1, 1865—5 p. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. SLOCUM, *Commanding Left Wing:*

GENERAL: I have a letter from General Williams detailing your difficulties. I think you had better dispatch Williams with his two divisions and Kilpatrick's cavalry, by the road leading through Duck Branch Post-Office, to Buford's Bridge, and overtake us and follow as soon as possible with the balance. I deem it important to get on the railroad as soon as possible.

We will march slowly, say ten or twelve miles a day, toward Midway, and I want you to come up on our left, say at Blackville or Graham's.

You will find some meat and forage. We have already found some.

Wheeler had a division of cavalry here, but they ran; they had obstructed the roads, but they were cleaned out without delay. Tell Corse he may come by Hickory Hill or Duck Branch, as he finds most convenient. You might occupy roads to the left for convenience.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Camp at Pocotaligo, February 1, 1865—3.30 p. m.

Major-General SLOCUM, *Comdg. Army of the Cumberland:*

GENERAL: I have just received a note from General Sherman, written at a point four miles south of Hickory Hill, at 1 p. m. to-day. The following is an extract:

All right. Get word over to Slocum that I have started and will be opposite Rivers' Bridge to-morrow. I may await him there, or go on to the railroad about Mid-

way. He should push cavalry first, and cross by corps as fast as ready. * * * Roads are very fair; obstructed at the swamps, but we cut a way about as fast as a column marches. We find some hogs, bacon, and corn, but much has been carried off by Wheeler, who is ahead. Open communication with Slocum to-night from Coosawhatchie to Robertsville.

I send this as soon after its receipt as my cavalry can saddle. The commander has orders to deliver it to General Williams, if you are not at Robertsville, and return.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Sister's Ferry, Ga., February 1, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you send details from your command as usual to-morrow morning to resume work on the road in South Carolina.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
February 1, 1865.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing, &c.:

GENERAL: Captain Luce, of steamer Pontiac, suggests that he can ferry the troops of this corps to the bluff, where his ship now lies. He can bring over the wagons, but not the horses. The other transports could easily take the horses. Or if this cannot be done the two regiments of First Division might be sent forward (Sixty-first Ohio and Thirteenth New Jersey). I shall move short of forage, but I think we shall find enough. My men are very short of stockings, especially. If they can be got forward it will save a great many disabled feet. I left a regiment of Ward's division at Purysburg to come up with the transport which was to bring the supplies. My command is now reduced to about a division and a half. If I can get the scattering regiments over it will be an important acquisition to our train guard. I leave Selfridge at the river, and hope to be in Lawtonville to-morrow night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Robertsville, S. C., February 1, 1865.

No buildings or other property will be burned without orders from these or superior headquarters. Quartermasters, commissaries, ambulance and ordnance officers, and all other officers will see that this order is communicated to the enlisted men and civilians under their charge, and they will be held responsible for the good conduct of their

respective commands. Department staff officers will remain with their proper commands and will see that straggling is prohibited. They will have regular roll-calls and inspections after every halt. Unauthorized absentees will be reported for punishment. All animals taken on the march will be reported through regular channels to the proper chief departmental staff officer of the corps. All cotton and other property destroyed will be reported to the provost-marshal of the corps. The prompt publication of this order by line and staff officers is required.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Robertsville, S. C., February 1, 1865.

That portion of this corps now on this side of the Savannah River, except the First Brigade of the First Division, will move to-morrow toward Lawtonville as follows: The Third Division at 7 a. m., the First Division at 8 a. m. One battery of artillery will march with the Third Division, one immediately in rear of it, and one with the First Division. General Ward will march one unencumbered brigade in advance of the trains, and General Jackson one in the rear. The balance of the troops will be distributed along the trains so as to afford the most ready protection and assistance. The trains of the First Brigade, First Division, will be left with that brigade, which is to remain in its present position, subject to the orders of Major-General Slocum.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Robertsville, S. C., February 1, 1865.

Brevet Major-General GEARY,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding the corps directs me to inform you that that portion of the Twentieth Corps now on this side of the river (except one brigade) will march to-morrow morning, and that probably we shall not keep communication with you. He therefore directs that you report to Major-General Slocum for orders for the movement of your command until you rejoin the corps again. He also desires that you will assume the control of all the troops and trains of this corps now on that side of the river, and bring them on with you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Washington, D. C., February 1, 1865.

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

SIR: I have the honor to recommend Brig. Gen. Thomas H. Ruger, commanding First Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, for the appointment of brevet major-general for gallant and meritorious services in

the battle of Franklin, Tenn., November 30, 1864. Also, Col. Thomas J. Henderson, One hundred and twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, for the appointment of brevet brigadier-general for gallant and meritorious services during the late campaigns in Georgia and Tennessee, and especially at the battle of Franklin, November 30, 1864.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 5. } HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES, *Fort Fisher, N. C., February 1, 1865.*

I. Until further orders no commissioned officer or enlisted man of this command will leave Federal Point to visit any vessel of the Navy, or any other point occupied by our troops, without permission from these headquarters.

II. The major-general commanding regrets that he finds it necessary to call the attention of commanding officers to the unauthorized discharge of firearms in the command, which have of late been so frequent as to imperil the lives of both officers and men. No firearms will hereafter be discharged, except in action, without permission from these headquarters.

By command of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Four Miles south of Hickory Hill,
February 1, 1865—1 p. m.

General FOSTER,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: Your letters of January 31 are received. I cannot modify my orders relative to General Saxton having the charge of recruiting blacks. The Secretary made that a point.

I think the impression at Washington is that both you and I are inimical to the policy of arming negroes, and all know that Saxton is not, and his appointment reconciles that difficulty. If anything serious occurs correspond directly with Mr. Stanton and make your points. Let Grant know that I am in motion, and telegraph to Easton that if Slocum has to wait for provisions it will be dead loss, as we are eating up ours. Let Hatch continually feel the Salkehatchie, and the moment the enemy lets go get the railroad broken back to the Edisto.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 1, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I regret to learn that reports have been made to you by General Easton to the effect that the cause of non-arrival of supplies for the Left Wing of the army was my failing to supply him with

steamers. I desire to place myself in the proper light in this matter, for I have earnestly striven to do all that I could to aid in supplies reaching the army. I therefore inclose a report of the occupation of every steamer in the department. By it it will be seen that sixteen steamers are under General Easton's orders, besides others that have at various times been under his orders, while to convey General Howard's army to Beaufort, to supply it there, to supply General Hatch's division, and to do all the work of the whole department, twenty-one steamers only are in use. I inclose a late paper, the 27th, brought by a steamer just in from the North. Major Gray takes both the paper and this letter to you.

Very respectfully and truly, yours,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General of Volunteers.

[Inclosure.]

Report of Steamers in the Department of the South, February 1, 1865.

Under orders of General Easton, at Savannah, Ga.—Canonicus, Golden Gate, Planter, Mayflower, Guide, Mary Benton, Philadelphia, Crescent, Standish, Sylph, Naushon, Fountain, General Lee, Beauregard, Jeff. Davis, and Starlight (tug), 16. Northern District—Charles Houghton and Frazier, 2. Coast Division—General Hooker, 1. Dispatch boat—W. W. Coit, 1. Towing schooners to dismantled Forts Beaulieu and Rosedew—Plato (tug), 1. Used by engineers—Wyoming, 1. Used by telegraph operators laying and repairing cable—Edwin Lewis, 1. Supplying Edisto Island—Anna Maria, 1. Transporting troops to Folly Island—Cosmopolitan and Nellie Baker, 2. Sent to North Carolina and Fortress Monroe, Va.—George Leary, 1. Employed in transporting General Howard's army, now awaiting orders—Louisburg, Matagorda, Delaware, Boardman, and Fannie, 5. Under orders of Colonel Conklin, chief quartermaster, Army of the Tennessee—Louise, 1. Under orders of General Saxton—Enoch Dean, 1. Loading with supplies for Savannah, Ga.—Loyalist, 1. Towing in harbor at Hilton Head, S. C.—Rescue and Relief (tugs), 2. Repairing at machine-shop—Achilles (tug), Savannah, Augusta, Hudson, Croton, Resolute, Island City, and Neptune, 8. Unfit for service—Nantasket, Oneoto, and John Adams, 3.

C. W. THOMAS,
Major and Chief Quartermaster, Department of the South.

CAMP AT INTRENCHMENTS,
February 1, 1865.

Items for General Sherman:

General Foster just arrived from Savannah. All up on the south side of the river Slocum found torpedoes in the road and road damaged by water; was obliged to make a new road. Bridge was completed and some men thrown over on the night of the 30th.

Has one mile and three-quarters to corduroy on this side; expects to complete it on the 31st. Kilpatrick will probably cross on the 1st February. Iverson's cavalry, one brigade, is on the south side of the Savannah River.

General Foster requests that paragraph 5, Special Field Orders, No. 15, the last sentence, be annulled, so that General Saxton shall have nothing to do with recruiting. General Hardee writes General Saxton that he has authority to allow cotton to be sold and cross the lines.

Major Gouraud arrived from North Carolina. Generals Grant, Schofield, and Rawlins were at Morehead City on the 29th; returned to Fort Monroe on that day.

On the 30th a dense black smoke arose from Wilmington; occasional explosions heard.

General Terry's advance line is about four miles from Fisher, his original line.

Newspaper of the 26th sent by General Foster.

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General.

I left General Foster at 2 a. m.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, February 1, 1865—1 p. m.
(Received 3.30 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. JOHN P. HATCH,
Commanding Coast Division:

GENERAL: Your note of this morning is received. All right. Get word over to Slocum that I have started and will be opposite Rivers' Bridge to-morrow. I may await him there, or go on to the railroad about Midway. He should push cavalry first, and cross by corps as fast as ready. Keep feeling at the Salkehatchie bridge and the ferry, and if the enemy lets go follow up as far as Edisto. Let's coop him in Charleston close. Foster will demonstrate about Edisto Island.

Roads are very fair; obstructed at the swamps, but we cut a way about as fast as a column marches. We find some hogs, bacon, and corn, but much has been carried off by Wheeler, who is ahead. Open communication with Slocum to-night from Coosawhatchie to Robertsville.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Pocotaligo, S. C., February 1, 1865.

Col. E. N. HALLOWELL,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you take one regiment of your command (the one now on Heyward's road), and two pieces of artillery (Napoleons) and proceed to Garden's Corners, where you will take all but two companies of the One hundred and seventh Ohio Volunteers and proceed down the Combahee Ferry road and make a reconnaissance of the enemy's position on this side of the river. If you are confident that you can carry the work without serious loss you will do so.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

NEW BERNE, *February 1, 1865.*

Major SLOSSON:
(Care of Captain Wheeler, Morehead City.)

General Grant directed that the pontoon train should not be disembarked here at present. He said let it remain on the vessels in the harbor at Beaufort until the arrival of General Schofield, who is expected very soon. If it is necessary to put the animals ashore a place must be provided for them. The probability is that the train will go on to Wilmington, to return here, perhaps, after awhile.

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 1, 1865—12 m.*

Brig. Gen. T. F. MEAGHER,
Commanding Provisional Division,
Armies of the Tennessee and Cumberland, Annapolis, Md.:

You will please move your command to New Berne, N. C., instead of Fort Fisher, as heretofore ordered. Your troops will debark at Beaufort and move thence by rail to New Berne. You will report for further orders to Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer, at New Berne.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

BALTIMORE, MD., *February 1, 1865.*
(Received 9.20 p. m.)

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War:

Since my telegram of the 28th ultimo, reporting the progress of troops from Benwood, we have forwarded from that point, up to 1.25 p. m. yesterday, twenty additional trains, with an aggregate of 226 cars, troops, &c. We have succeeded, surrounded by unusual difficulties and through a season of unprecedentedly severe weather, in transporting promptly and with regularity this great movement, which required from the river, and over each division of the road, 54 locomotives and 750 cars.

J. W. GARRETT,
President of Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 2, 1865—9.30 p. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

I am in receipt of a letter from General Sherman.* He expected to move from Pocotaligo on Tuesday last. He asks to have Foster relieved and Schofield succeed him; headquarters at Beaufort, N. C. He was not aware of North Carolina being taken from Foster's command, however. I would favor the removal of Foster on the ground of physical disability. We want a man who is not confined to his quarters. Terry would suit me for that command, now that Schofield goes to North Carolina. Two of his division commanders rank Terry.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See January 29, p. 154.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 24. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES, *City Point, Va., February 2, 1865.*

I. Brig. Gen. S. Williams, acting inspector-general, Armies of the United States, will proceed without delay to the Department of the South, and make a thorough inspection of military affairs in that department. All military authorities are required to afford him every facility in the execution of this order.

On the completion of said inspection General Williams will report in person to these headquarters.

* * * * * * *

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
February 2, 1865.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Richmond Sentinel, of February 2, contains the following:

The attention of all is called to the appeal of General Lee, in another column, urging the delivery to Confederate States officers of all arms and cavalry equipments in the hands of citizens.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The news from Charleston of the enemy's movements indicates that Augusta and Branchville are the points aimed at. The Twentieth Army Corps is at Robertsville, fifty miles above Savannah, and five miles from the river. A heavy force of infantry, artillery, and cavalry, believed to be composed of the Fifteenth and Sixteenth [Seventeenth] Army Corps, is said to be encamped near the junction of the Salkehatchie and old Union road. On the 30th the enemy, with artillery and infantry, advanced from White Point and drove in our skirmish line three miles, to King's Creek. Our infantry afterward advanced and drove the enemy back to White Point, re-establishing the picket-line. On the 31st the enemy made a demonstration on the position defending the pontoon bridge over the Salkehatchie, but without result. It is reported that they burned the village of McPhersonville, five miles southwest of Pocotaligo, on the night of the 30th.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, VA., *February 2, 1865—1 p. m.*
(Received 2.15 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Steamer George Leary just arrived from Savannah. Major Anderson, bearer of dispatches from General Sherman to General Schofield, leaves for Annapolis on mail-boat Webster this p. m. No news of importance beyond dispatches. Captain Hudson, of General Grant's staff, also arrived by same boat, with detailed dispatch for General Grant.

T. T. ECKERT.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Hickory Post-Office, February 2, 1865—3.45 a. m.

General HOWARD:

I have just received your dispatch. You may go on with two divisions and secure, if possible, Rivers' Bridge. Let one division keep [on] to Angley's Post-Office by the south of Whippy. Logan will move so as to get his head of column on the road leading from Duck Branch Post-Office to Angley's. That road, the old Orangeburg road, is supposed to be on good, firm ground, and is an old road leading to Buford's Bridge, which is the one I expect to use. Wheeler's cavalry is mostly to our left. At Rivers' you will find infantry and artillery in position. Slocum is unable to cross the Savannah by reason of water over the banks; will have to bridge three-quarters of a mile from four to six feet of water. We may have to go to the railroad without him. I have a cipher dispatch from him, the contents of which, when translated, I will tell the bearer of this.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 2, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: General Blair crossed his Fourth Division to this side of Whippy Swamp and pushed on, skirmishing constantly with some 300 rebel cavalry. General Mower had the advance. On reaching the road leading to Broxton's Bridge he pushed a reconnaissance to the river and found the bridge thoroughly destroyed.

The enemy had a long line of skirmishers on the other side, who wounded two or three of our men. We left a regiment to continue the demonstration, and moved on rapidly to Rivers' Bridge. General Mower succeeded in preventing the rebels from destroying it, but discovered an earth-work upon the other shore with two pieces of artillery bearing on the road; the rebels opened fire as soon as our men appeared. Colonel Swayne, of the Forty-third Ohio, commanding brigade, lost his leg, and the adjutant of the Twenty-fifth Wisconsin, Lieutenant Fitzgerald, was killed.* Several (five or six) were wounded by the shelling. The skirmish line got through the swamp as far as the Salkehatchie River, and at dark the pioneers were felling trees across the river for foot bridges. General Force, with the Third Division, Seventeenth Corps, was three or four miles from Angley's Post-Office when last heard from.

The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry led the skirmish line during part of the day; they made several gallant charges, in one of which Lieutenant-Colonel Kirby, of General Blair's staff, was wounded and had his horse killed.

I send you copy of my order for to-morrow.

I am anxious to have more force here so as to control Buford's Bridge.

The enemy seem to have considerable force opposite us at this point, enough to furnish quite an extended skirmish line.

*A mistake.

In case you wish to detain General Logan longer for the Left Wing, I hope you will allow one division at least to move up to Angley's Post-Office to-morrow.

Broxton's Bridge is near Williams' (marked on the map), and Rivers' Bridge is five miles above.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 29.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 2, 1865.

The following disposition of troops will be made for to-morrow: The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will move to Angley's Post-Office, and sending forward a reconnaissance will endeavor to take and hold possession of Buford's Bridge. Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair, commanding Seventeenth Army Corps, will cause his Third Division to close in with the corps and reconnoiter the line of the river, with a view of turning the enemy's position at Rivers' Bridge in case it is not turned during the night.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Snyder's Store, February 2, 1865.

Major-General HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to request you to send a couple of regiments up the road leading to Angley's Post-Office about one mile. Let them take position covering the approaches from that direction and intrench.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—General Sherman requests that the officer in command may look out for couriers from General Howard.

M. W.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
February 2, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I don't feel quite satisfied about our north face. I think you had better have General Giles Smith move up his smallest brigade entire, and extend your line to the left, facing north; and as soon as it is dark bring back the main line of General Mower to the high ground, and cover the north front by a good skirmish line.

Please have the Ninth Illinois send out good road pickets.

Should the enemy be able to comprehend our position, and had he force enough, he might give us annoyance by turning our left by the way of Buford's Bridge.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 30. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Near Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 2, 1865.*

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II. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will move his command at 7 a. m. to-morrow on the Angley's Post-Office and Rivers' Bridge road to a camp on the left of the line of the First Division.

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By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Whippy Swamp Post-Office, February 2, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that instead of moving on this road you will move your entire command on the road the First Brigade is on, and proceed via Whippy Swamp Post-Office to Angley's Post-Office, crossing Whippy Swamp at the latter place and remaining there until you receive orders. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will move in your advance up to Whippy Swamp Post-Office, when they will leave that road and cross over to this one. Move at 7 o'clock.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Lawtonville, S. C., February 2, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow toward Duck Branch Post-Office, as follows: The First Division at 6.30 a. m.; Third Division at 7.30 a. m. The immediate presence of the enemy requires that two unencumbered brigades with one battery of artillery should precede the trains. General Jackson will, therefore, march his two brigades in front of all the trains. General Ward will distribute his troops along the whole train, so as to assist and protect them. A rear guard of two regiments will be sufficient.

The artillery will march, one battery with the advanced brigades, one immediately in rear of the First Division trains, and one with the Third Division.

General Jackson will have as strong a pioneer force as possible at the head of the column.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 2, 1865.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have the honor to inclose my letter to General Sherman of the 31st ultimo,* with his indorsement thereon; also copies of the orders and instructions referred to in such letter, with copy of Brevet Brigadier-General Littlefield's letter to me, dated 30th of January. These inclosures are marked, respectively, 1, 2, 3, &c., to No. 9. I would respectfully ask that the last sentence of paragraph V, of Special Field Orders, No. 15, from General Sherman's headquarters, may be annulled, so as to leave the recruiting and organization of colored men in my hands and those of Brevet Brigadier-General Littlefield, where it was left by previous instructions of the War Department. I respectfully submit that the proposed change would disorganize the machinery now established, and would produce confusion and consequently necessary delay. By the orders inclosed you will see that I am directed to appoint officers provisionally. Numbers have been assigned to the new regiments by the bureau of which Colonel Foster is chief, to wit, the One hundred and third, the One hundred and fourth, the One hundred and fifth, and the One hundred and twenty-eighth. I have appointed officers in the One hundred and third, and the regiment is being efficiently organized. I am pushing this matter of enlistments, and shall, in any event, do all in my power to further the wishes of the Department. I would also suggest that to place this matter of organizing these regiments in other hands than those of the department commander might produce unnecessary complications. General Saxton's important duties as inspector under General Sherman's order will of necessity occupy much time and demand his constant care. In them he will receive my thorough support. The interests at stake are so great that they should be furthered by a hearty and soldierly co-operation between us. I ask this respectfully, as General Sherman informs me that the change specified in the above-mentioned paragraph of his order was made by your directions. I regret that there should seem to be any doubt of my interest in the arming of the colored race. I have since the first order on this subject was issued by the War Department been one of the most active in encouraging and enforcing the enlistment of these men. Every officer who has served with me will bear testimony to this. Among the earliest colored regiments organized were the First and Second North Carolina regiments; you will remember that they were raised under my personal supervision by Brigadier-General Wild. As a soldier, I wish to see our armies strengthened; as a citizen, to do that which will most benefit this unfortunate race, and fit them to rightly use that liberty with which the war has blessed them. Regarding the discipline which they will receive in the army as the greatest and most widely spread educational influence which can be brought to bear upon them, the policy of the Government in making soldiers of them commends itself alike to my judgment and my humanity. I need not say that whatever may be your decision, it will receive from me a soldier's acquiescence.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

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* See p. 186.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 2, 1865.
(Via Fort Monroe 6th, 3.30 p. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: I have received dispatch from General Sherman, who was at a point four miles south of Hickory Springs last night (1st). He expected to be at Rivers' Bridge to-night (2d), and at a point midway between Branchville and Augusta to-morrow night. The roads were fair. General Hatch's division is demonstrating toward Combahee and feigning to attempt forcing a crossing. General E. E. Potter with three regiments is demonstrating from Edisto Island toward Willstown. In two days this force will be added to that on Folly Island to demonstrate against James Island. I shall keep things active and strive to aid General Sherman in every way in my power.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 2, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, U. S. Army,
Chief of Staff, U. S. Armies:

GENERAL: The experience of the past few weeks has shown that volunteering among the colored men in this department is very slow and may not for a long time furnish the number so much needed for garrison and other duties. These men, just freed from long servitude, are, of necessity, ignorant and improvident. Their idea of liberty is exemption alike from work and care. The streets of Savannah are full of them, lying in the sun and waiting for bread without labor. Needing their services as soldiers, I respectfully ask that the Department will fix a quota for the States of South Carolina and Georgia, and allow me to fill it by conscripting the able-bodied young colored men, under such restrictions and exemptions as may be deemed most wise by the Department. Such as are imposed by the existing U. S. conscription law might be designated with an order that one-half or one-third of the number liable should be drafted. I have consulted with colored pastors on this subject and they agree with me in advising the proposed course. The future of the race is a matter of serious moment. Education is necessary to make freedom truly beneficial. The training of the army will do more to educate these men than any other scheme which can be devised; it will make them self-reliant and will develop their manhood. The camp is to-day the school-house of this race; it may be that in the future the soldierly training of these people will be their protection against local injustice, while the habits of care and economy so learned will make them self-supporting.

Alike, therefore, upon military and humane grounds, I ask the careful attention of the Department to the suggestions of this letter, and am, general,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, at a point 2½ Miles north of Duck Branch Post-Office, 3½ Miles from Pocotaligo, February 2, 1865—7 p. m.

General J. G. FOSTER,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: I wrote you on the road yesterday touching the matter of General Saxton, and gave you my reasons for not changing my orders. I still adhere to that conclusion, but have no objection whatever that you should apply to the Secretary of War direct and leave him to judge. But as to military discipline, I decide that General Saxton cannot go to a military post and do anything which in the judgment of its commander is calculated to produce confusion or disorder. The commanding officer of a post is the proper person to see that it does not become encumbered with idle or worthless vagabonds of any color, sex, or kind. You may sustain General Grover in anything he may do as to maintaining good order and government at Savannah.

The Secretary of War is charged by Congress with the administration of the war policy, and we are bound to respect his authority and wishes, and these are contained in my orders. If General Saxton presumes on any special influence let him alone and he will commit some breach of military propriety, when you will take action. I consider he has no more control over organizations of colored troops after they are mustered and paid than the superintendent of the general recruiting service for white troops. During the inchoate existence of a regiment or company he may use it about his rendezvous for guard and police; but after troops are organized as companies, battalions, or regiments, mustered in and paid by the United States, they at once become, like any other part of your command, subject to your orders and detail. Indeed, were I in your place, I would prefer this disposition, as it relieves you of all the details of organization. As to Littlefield's duties, you can put him subject to Saxton, or you can give him the detail of any other officers and men of your command at your own option. You may require him to apply for such details as he wants, and you can make them just as you would for the quartermaster.

As to the nomination of officers for negro regiments, that purely belongs to the appointing power, the President, who may delegate it to whom he sees fit.

As to steam-boats, I don't think General Easton has any feeling as to you; but I think he has an idea that Major Thomas, much his junior, is left to judge. If he knows that you give the subject your personal attention, he will be content. It would be well for you to confer with him, for I have given him *carte blanche* and hold him accountable as to my immediate army.

My movements now will depend for a day or so on Slocum; but you had better be all ready for the steps I indicated.

We find a good deal of cavalry on all the roads, but they do not delay our march.

The infantry is behind the Salkehatchie, which is a swampy, ugly stream all the way up to Barnwell.

I am much obliged for the papers. All well.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Pocotaligo, February 2, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I neglected to mention in the items sent you yesterday that General Foster wished me to say to you that he considers it absolutely necessary that General Saxton shall be relieved from superintending the recruiting colored troops. He is crazy on the subject, has harangued meetings, and had an appointment for a mass-meeting in Savannah yesterday. It is, however, probable that General Grover yesterday forbid the mass-meeting. The negroes misunderstand their recently acquired freedom, and will neither work nor enlist. General Saxton's course is thought to encourage them in their opinions. General Littlefield is considered capable of managing and organizing the recruiting of blacks.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

I shall cross at Combahee Ferry as soon as I can get boats to that point.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Pocotaligo, S. C., February 2, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER ENGINEERS AT PORT ROYAL FERRY:

SIR: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you move your command to the mainland on this side of the causeway, and erect there a tête-de-pont arranged for two or more guns. He also directs you to send word as to the number of pontoon boats you have at that point.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., February 2, 1865.

Maj. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General U. S. Army, Washington:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose direct to you a letter written by the acting chief quartermaster of this district to the chief quartermaster at Fort Monroe, concerning some transportation.

To send this requisition through the ordinary channels would occupy too much time, and for this reason it is sent direct to you.

I have received letters (confidential) from both General Sherman and General Foster informing me of General Sherman's plans, and I am preparing everything here for the advance of Sherman's army into this State. The force for placing the railroad in order from our outposts to Kinston has arrived, and a portion of Schofield's corps is hourly expected here. This additional force will probably arrive without wagons, and I wish to place them in immediate condition to march, with twenty days' supply of provisions and ammunition, to Goldsborough, where I expect to join General Sherman by the latter part of this month.

Our wagons now here are barely sufficient to perform the labor here. In May last every wagon, horse, and mule that could be spared from this district was sent to Virginia, and none of them have ever been returned.

If this requisition can be filled I think I will be able to co-operate with General Sherman in the manner directed by him.

As I have said, the plans for future operations have been given to me confidentially, and I therefore send this to you in the same way. It is my impression, however, that it is the general belief in all this region that Sherman is coming through this State, and it appears to be spoken of as a matter of course.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *February 2, 1865—11 a. m.*
(Received 11.30 a. m.)

General SCHOFIELD :

Mahone's division, which was reported to have gone south, has returned to Petersburg. They did go south near or quite to Weldon, probably to meet a raid sent by General Palmer to destroy the ram which is being built in the Roanoke.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE OHIO,
February 2, 1865—2.30 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

I expect to get off to-morrow with one division besides General Meagher's command. I will go with the advance and will stop at Fort Monroe for your orders. I will telegraph you when I start.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, VA., *February 2, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Washington, D. C.:

I arrived here to-day with dispatches for you from Major-General Sherman. Will be in Annapolis to-morrow morning (Friday).

JOHN F. ANDERSON,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
No. 18. } *Washington, D. C., February 2, 1865.*

I. The Special Orders of January 26, 1865, from these headquarters, for embarking the troops of this command, is hereby modified as follows: The First and Third Brigades, Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, will embark at Alexandria to-morrow morning and move without delay to Fort Fisher, N. C. The Second Brigade, Third Division (Colonel Casement's), will move by rail to Annapolis, Md., and embark at that point, and move without delay to Fort Fisher. This brigade

will take precedence of all other troops in embarking at Annapolis, it being important that it reach its destination as soon as practicable. Brig. Gen. T. F. Meagher's Provisional Division will embark at Annapolis without unnecessary delay (giving precedence to Colonel Casement's brigade), and move to Beaufort, and thence by rail to New Berne, N. C., and join the command of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer, to whom General Meagher will report on his arrival at Beaufort for further orders. The Second and First Divisions, Twenty-third Army Corps, will embark at Alexandria or Annapolis, as may be directed by Brigadier-General Rucker, quartermaster, as soon as transports shall be provided, and will move without delay to Fort Fisher, N. C. One battery will move with each division, if practicable, without delaying the movement of the infantry. The remaining artillery wagons and animals will follow the troops as soon as suitable transports can be provided. Headquarters will move with the Third Division from Alexandria to-morrow.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 8. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 23D ARMY CORPS, *Alexandria, Va., February 2, 1865.*

I. Capt. Hobart Ford, One hundred and fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, is hereby detailed for duty as aide-de-camp on the personal staff of the general commanding, and will report without delay to these headquarters.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ANNAPOLIS, MD., *February 2, 1865—10 p. m.*
(Received 11.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

About 1,000 of General Meagher's division have arrived and are on board transports. Boats ordered to Baltimore to-day for troops have failed to reach that city. Another attempt will be made at daylight to-morrow. Great difficulty is experienced in coaling vessels at this point and in supplying them with water. In addition to steamers named in your memoranda the Alliance and Hermann Livingstone have arrived. The first will carry 200 men and the other 800.

ROBT. N. SCOTT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C., *February 2, 1865.*

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that, in accordance with your orders, the Twenty-third Army Corps, Major-General Schofield commanding, has been transferred from Clifton, on the Tennessee, to the

Potomac. Under the instructions of the Hon. C. A. Dana, Assistant Secretary of War, I left this city on the 11th ultimo to take the general supervision of the movement. Anxious, if possible, to comply with the wishes of the Department and those of the lieutenant-general in making it to Parkersburg by water, yet knowing by experience the extreme uncertainties of winter navigation upon the Ohio, I telegraphed on my departure to several trustworthy gentlemen intimately connected with the management of Western railroads, who met me while en route to Louisville, and with whom I arranged for a quiet concentration of machinery, so that if necessary there could be, on twelve to twenty-four hours' notice, at either Cairo, Evansville, Louisville, or Cincinnati, sufficient to move the corps as it should arrive at either of those points, and yet in such manner as not to prove detrimental to the interests of the different roads in case the machinery was not required.

Arrangements were also made through the commissary department, by which the comfort of the troops should be cared for by supplying, as often as once in each hundred miles of railroad transportation, in addition to their rations an abundance of hot coffee.

On arriving at Louisville and not finding dispatches from Generals Thomas or Schofield, as was anticipated, advising me as to the amount of transportation required, or the time when the troops would be ready to move, on consultation with General Allen it was deemed best to order without delay the assembling at Paducah, the mouth of the Tennessee River, of transports amply sufficient to make the required movement. This being done by telegraph, I left Louisville the same evening (14th) and reached Paducah the following night, where learning that Major-General Schofield had but a few hours previously passed down the river I proceeded at once to Cairo, and the next day learning from him by telegraph that only transportation for 10,000 men would be required, in addition to the boats already up the river, I returned to Paducah that night, ordered the boats, with convoy, to be in readiness as soon as possible, and started the next morning at daylight up the Tennessee.

At about 5 o'clock the same evening (17th) meeting General McLean with a division of the Twenty-third Army Corps coming down on transports greatly overloaded, on communication with him it was deemed best that I should return to Paducah, sending up the river the transports accompanying me, under care of Capt. Arthur Edwards, assistant quartermaster.

After largely increasing at Paducah the transportation for General McLean's command, rendering the condition of the troops entirely comfortable for a long trip, this portion of the corps proceeded up the Ohio on the following morning (18th) and on the evening of the same day, having completed all necessary arrangements for the remainder of the troops as they should reach that place, I left via Cairo for Louisville by rail, and arrived there on the morning of the 20th in advance of any of the transports.

During the previous night the weather suddenly changed from the mild and genial temperature with which we had hitherto been favored, and the morning brought the coldest weather as yet experienced during the winter, so that on arriving at the Ohio I found the river so full of floating ice as to give serious apprehensions of our ability to proceed by boats even to Cincinnati.

On consultation, however, with Major-General Schofield, General Allen, and the best advised river men, I ordered forward the boats to

Cincinnati, and telegraphed as previously arranged for the collection at that place of the necessary cars and machinery to be ready on the following morning to receive the troops as they arrived.

The river having rapidly fallen over twenty feet rendered it impossible for our larger boats to pass above the falls, producing thereby considerable detention, as we were obliged to transfer the troops to a smaller class of boats which could pass through the canal.

Everything progressing satisfactorily I again took the cars on the evening of the 20th and reached Cincinnati the following morning, in advance of the transports, where I found all necessary preparations made to receive the troops on their arrival. During the same day (21st) about 3,000 men were disembarked, loaded on the cars of the Little Miami Railroad, and started eastward.

In the afternoon a fog arose, so dense as for more than thirty hours to entirely prevent any movement of boats, and resulting in the detention of a large part of the fleet for that length of time.

On the 22d about 4,000 more troops were transferred from the boats to the cars of the Hamilton and Dayton Railroad, and left for their destination. During the evening of this day the weather again greatly moderated, and being advised by telegraph from Wheeling and Parkersburg of the probabilities of an immediate resumption of navigation, I directed, on the morning of the 23d, that boats containing from 6,000 to 8,000 troops should take on board as soon as possible an ample supply of fuel and be ready to move up the river.

This completed, it was arranged with General Couch, commanding, that the transports should start early in the evening (23d), and one had already departed when there was again so rapid a change in the weather as to render it [an] unsafe proceeding, and a boat was immediately dispatched to bring back the transport which was on its way to Parkersburg, and all were ordered to remain until morning.

During the 23d the movement by land was continued, and about 4,000 additional troops had been disembarked and transferred to the cars of the Little Miami Railroad. On the morning of the 24th, the weather having greatly increased in severity, and my dispatches from Parkersburg advising me that the river was so full of ice as to render navigation impracticable, I ordered the remainder of the troops to disembark and proceed via the Little Miami Railroad, which, excepting some of the artillery and animals, was effected on that and the following day.

Owing to the embarrassments and delays on the Ohio Central, resulting from broken rails and machinery, caused by the uncommon severities of the weather, and by which cars were repeatedly thrown from the track, and several narrow escapes from serious disaster encountered, as well as from the difficulties of crossing the Ohio, I remained on the line from Columbus to Bellaire until the 31st, taking personal supervision of the transfer of the troops until the last car was loaded on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and on its way over the mountains, when at 12 m. I took the train and reached this city on the night of the 1st instant, where, on the following day, I found upon the banks of the Potomac the Twenty-third Army Corps safely encamped.

The distance transported is nearly 1,400 miles, about equally divided between land and water. The average time of transportation, from the embarkation on the Tennessee to the arrival on the banks of the Potomac, was not exceeding eleven days; and what is still more important, is the fact that during the whole movement not a single accident has happened causing loss of life, limbs, or property, except

in the single instance of a soldier improperly jumping from the car under apprehension of danger, by which he lost his life, when, had he remained quiet, he would have been as safe as were his comrades of the same car.

After so many days of anxiety and suspense—a suspense and anxiety I know fully shared by yourself and many others—may I not congratulate you upon the complete and entire success of a movement the like of which I think has neither its parallel in this eventful war, nor, indeed, in the history of warfare, the only similar movement being that of the transfer of the Twelfth and Thirteenth [Eleventh] Army Corps of 22,000 men, General Hooker commanding, from the Potomac to Chattanooga, 200 miles less in distance, and effected in the mildest autumn weather in about the same time, with days, if not weeks, of preparation, and in which case the route was distinctly understood before the movement commenced. The difference between a movement under such circumstances and one under which the Twenty-third Army Corps has been transported, with greatly multiplied dangers and difficulties attending it, are thoroughly understood by all familiar with winter navigation and land transportation.

The transfer of so large an army, with ample time and preparation, for so great a distance, even in summer weather, would of itself be a marked event. But when it is understood that not beyond four or five days had elapsed after the movement was decided upon in Washington before the embarkation of the troops had actually commenced upon the banks of the Tennessee, nearly 1,400 miles distant, and that within an average of eleven days from the time of its embarkation so large an army, with its artillery and animals, was quietly encamped upon the banks of the Potomac, and that the transfer has been made along rivers obstructed by fog and ice, and over mountains, during violent snow-storms, and amid the unusual severities of midwinter in a northern climate, with all the doubts, constant uncertainties, and changes herein mentioned as to routes and points of transfer, at a period of the year, too, when accidents upon railroads arising from the breaking of machinery or rails in ordinary transportation are of frequent occurrence, many of a serious and fatal character having occurred during this time on other roads, and when it is known that the comfort of the troops has been so carefully provided for, and the police of the different roads so thoroughly organized that during the whole movement not the least injury of person or loss of property occurred, with the exception of the soldier above alluded to, and that the condition of the troops is to-day in all respects as good for meeting the enemies of their country as it was on the day of their departure from the banks of the Tennessee; under such circumstances, am I not justified in characterizing this movement as an event remarkable in design and successful in execution, the like of which has never before occurred, and as being most illustrative of the great physical advancement and resources of our country, even in its present desolated and distracted condition, and showing its resistless power when harmonious and united?

I should be failing in justice not to record and call special attention to the means by which your orders have been so successfully executed. I refer to the managers of our railroad and river transportation.

The earnest efforts of those controlling the different lines of railroads used in making this movement have been most conspicuous.

How many valuable officers and soldiers have been furnished to our army from this department of business is well known to yourself; a business commanding as it does a greater number in proportion than

any other of the most energetic and enterprising portion of our citizens, men well adapted to military service by habits of command and prompt obedience, hardened by exposure, fertile in resources, vigorous and energetic in action, and accustomed to danger where prompt decision is required.

It is to this class of men that the Government is largely indebted for many of its brilliant triumphs and without whose services your order for the movement of the Twenty-third Army Corps could not have been executed. Few persons are aware of the superior ability, energy, and unceasing watchfulness necessary even on ordinary occasions to secure the movement of so large a force over a long line of railroad, and fewer still appreciate the great increase of difficulties and dangers during such extraordinary severe weather as we have had for the last month, to insure safety from accident and disaster; and while nothing that I can say will add to the reputation of gentlemen so well known to the community as are most of those who have been engaged in this movement, yet it is but just to place upon record the fact that these private citizens have spared no labor and omitted no efforts to accomplish the desired object; that from the highest official to the lowest employé days of anxious toil and nights of sleepless vigilance have conclusively proved that all were fully awake to the importance of the duty devolving upon them, and felt that intense interest which men alone feel who are thoroughly conscious of their personal responsibility for the lives of thousands and the success of an important enterprise.

The gentlemen to whom I allude are William H. Clement, president, and E. W. Woodward, superintendent of the Little Miami Railroad; D. McLauren, superintendent of the Hamilton and Dayton Railroad; Thomas Lough, superintendent Steubenville and Indiana Railroad; Hon. H. J. Jewett, president, and D. W. Caldwell, superintendent Ohio Central Railroad; John W. Garrett, president, and W. Prescott Smith, master of transportation, of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, all of whom, I think, are justly entitled to the thanks of the Government for the services they have rendered. The circumstances, I think, render it not invidious that I should especially refer to the management of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, where indomitable will, energy, and superior ability have been so often and so conspicuously manifested, and where such invaluable services have been rendered to the Government, a road nearly 400 miles in length, so often broken and apparently destroyed, so constantly subjected to rebel incursions, that had it been under ordinary management, it would long since have ceased operations; yet, notwithstanding all the difficulties of the severe winter season, the great disorganization of employés necessarily incident to a road thus situated, its most extraordinary curves, grades, bridges, tunnels, and the mountain heights it scales, it has moved this large force in the shortest possible time with almost the exactness and regularity of ordinary passenger trains, and with a freedom from accident that, I think, has seldom, if ever, been paralleled.

Much credit is also due to the boatmen of the West, who with scarcely a day's notice promptly and cheerfully furnished over forty transports for this service, and who have so often and so patiently submitted to the seizure of their transports, and effectively assisted in securing the success of our armies. During the last four years it has often fallen to my lot to witness the cool bravery and acts of daring of this class of men in the passage of batteries, or the sudden and unexpected attack of bands of guerrillas while navigating our Western rivers; and Generals Grant and Sherman, with many others, will bear witness that none

have shown greater firmness and resolution in danger, or more reckless daring and disregard of personal safety, and I doubt not many of their deeds will live in history and tradition along the lines of our Western rivers, as have the stories and deeds of partisan chiefs of former times.

It was by the services of such men that the Government was enabled so rapidly to concentrate re-enforcements at Donelson and Shiloh; that with seven days' notice it was enabled to embark 40,000 men under Sherman in mid-winter for the movement against Vicksburg, and subsequently to precipitate the same force upon, and capture, the Post of Arkansas. It was their courage that piloted our transports past the batteries of Island No. 10, Vicksburg, and numberless other places along our Western waters; and all who have seen the unblanched cheek and steady arm by which the pilot at the wheel or the captain on the hurricane roof have discharged their duties in hours of danger, cannot fail to acknowledge that they justly deserved a page in the history of the events of the war.

I also acknowledge with pleasure the services of Capt. J. V. Lewis, assistant quartermaster, an able officer, recently in charge of transportation at Cincinnati, who, at my solicitation, though he had tendered his resignation and was relieved from duty, again resumed his former position and labored incessantly, and rendered most valuable assistance in effecting the transfer at Cincinnati in the movement by rail.

I would also acknowledge the very valuable assistance rendered by Capt. Arthur Edwards, assistant quartermaster; Capt. J. H. Wilson, assistant quartermaster; Capt. A. C. Woolfolk, assistant quartermaster, and Capt. Gus. Artsman, assistant quartermaster, at their respective posts of duty.

Herewith I transmit copies of all orders, instructions, communications, and reports of the superintendents of the several roads, forming a complete record of the movement.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

[Inclosures.]

Copies of orders, letters, and telegrams.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
1.] *January 11, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Chief of Rail and River Transportation, Washington, D. C.:

COLONEL: It having been decided that the Twenty-third Army Corps, Major-General Schofield commanding, shall be transferred from the Tennessee to the Chesapeake, you will immediately proceed westward, and take the general supervision and management of its transportation.

If the navigation of the Ohio will admit, it is deemed best that the transportation shall be by boats to Parkersburg, W. Va., thence by rail over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Should this not be practicable, the troops should be transported by rail from Cairo, Evansville, Jeffersonville, or Cincinnati, as navigation of the Ohio will permit, then by rail to Bellaire, and over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
2.] *Washington, January 11, 1865.*

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: In accordance with your instructions I will leave here so as to connect with the first train from Baltimore to Wheeling. I should arrive at Wheeling about 5 o'clock to-morrow evening, and at Cincinnati via Columbus early the next morning, and Louisville the next afternoon.

Would it not be well to advise General Allen of the contemplated movement, so that in case he learns General Thomas is in readiness to move, he could be gathering the necessary boats at Louisville, and also direct him to open any dispatches to me.

Very respectfully,

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
3.] *Washington, January 11, 1865.*

Col. J. A. POTTER,
Assistant Quartermaster, Chicago, Ill.:

We may want 200 or 300 cars at Cairo within three or four days.

See the Illinois Central that they may have it in view, as we could not probably give more than twelve to twenty-four hours' notice. I go direct to Louisville; answer to Wheeling, care of Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

By order of Quartermaster-General:

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

4.] CHICAGO, *January 12, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Chief of Rail and River Transportation:

The Illinois Central says everything depends on the speedy unloading of the 150 cars already en route to Cairo, as they would have to be relied on to fill the requisitions.

J. A. POTTER,
Colonel and Quartermaster.

—

5.] FAIRMONT, VA., *January 12, 1865—3 p. m.*

W. PRESCOTT SMITH,
Master Transpt. Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Baltimore, Md.:

Cannot you consent that Mr. Coffran should come to Louisville to-morrow in case I telegraph back for him? He is willing to go if you think proper. I think it might be very useful to your road by giving you early and correct information.

Have you no reply from Gray or Lough?

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

6.] BALTIMORE, MD., *January 12, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS:

Gray says he and Lough will meet you at Columbus or Cincinnati. Coffran can go with you, if desired.

W. P. SMITH.

—

7.] RAILROAD NEAR BENWOOD, *January 12, 1865.*

Capt. ARTHUR EDWARDS,
Assistant Quartermaster, or
Capt. L. S. METCALF,
Assistant Quartermaster, Saint Louis, Mo.:

Can Captain Edwards, with Mr. Downs and Hendricks, meet me at Louisville day after to-morrow in case I telegraph for them to do so? Answer care of General Allen, Louisville, and Captain Lewis, of Cincinnati.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

8.] SAINT LOUIS, MO., *January 13, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Quartermaster:
(Care of General R. Allen, chief quartermaster.)

We can meet you any place you may direct.

ARTHUR EDWARDS,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

Received at Louisville, Ky., 10 a. m. January 14, 1865.

—

9.] RAILROAD NEAR CAMERON, VA., *January 12, 1865.*

Mr. JEWETT,
President Ohio Central Railroad, or
Mr. CALDWELL,
Superintendent, Zanesville, Ohio:

Could not Mr. Caldwell come out a few miles on this evening's train to consult with me about a matter of importance to the Government and your road?

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

10.] ZANESVILLE, OHIO, *January 12, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS:

Your dispatch received too late for me to meet you on the road. If you wish I can see you here, when train arrives.

D. W. CALDWELL.

Received at Bellaire 8 p. m. January 12.

11.] RAILROAD NEAR BENWOOD, *January 12, 1865.*

Col. MCKIM, or
J. V. LEWIS, *Quartermasters, Cincinnati, Ohio:*

I desire to see Captain Lewis and some representative of the Little Miami Railroad, on important business, on my arrival at Cincinnati to-morrow morning on my way direct to Louisville.

By order of Quartermaster-General:

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

12.] CINCINNATI, OHIO, *January 13, 1865.*

Capt. A. C. WOOLFOLK,
Assistant Quartermaster, Cairo, Ill.:

How many and what boats could you furnish on from twelve to twenty-four hours' notice, with ten days' stores, fuel for 500 or 600 miles? What boats are in the Tennessee or Cumberland? Answer, Louisville, care General Allen, as particularly as practicable. How many cars could you furnish at Cairo on the same notice if necessary?

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

13.] CAIRO, ILL., *January 14, 1865.*

Colonel PARSONS:
(Care General Allen.)

I can furnish transportation for the 10,000 men asked for by General Allen, without material damage to freighting up Cumberland. The Kennett, Brilliant, Marmora, Decatur, Des Moines, and some others in Cumberland. Izetta and others in Tennessee. I am assured by railroad agent that there will be no trouble about cars. Let me know in time. Is this the same as General Allen's?

WOOLFOLK.

—

14.] CINCINNATI, OHIO, *January 13, 1865.*

Capt. L. S. METCALF,
Assistant Quartermaster, Saint Louis, Mo.:

Is the river open to Cairo? If so, how many, and what boats could you furnish, on from twelve to twenty-four hours' notice, with ten days' stores and fuel for 600 miles to be sent to Cairo?

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

15.] CINCINNATI, OHIO, *January 13, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. ROBERT ALLEN,
Louisville, Ky.:

I have just arrived, and leave on mail-boat for Louisville. Please request Captain Ernst to ascertain the names of all boats on the Tennessee and Cumberland, as far as practicable.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

16.] CINCINNATI, OHIO, *January 13, 1865.*

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

Missed connection. Leave for Louisville at noon. River at Pittsburg sixteen feet, falling; Cincinnati thirty-seven feet, rising.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

17.] LOUISVILLE, *January 14, 1865.*

THOMAS LOUGH, Esq.,
Columbus, Ohio:

No assistance required for some days at least.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

18.] LOUISVILLE, *January 14, 1865.*

W. PRESCOTT SMITH,
Master Transportation, Baltimore, Md.:

Shall not require Mr. Coffran at present. Everything looks well so far.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

19.] LOUISVILLE, KY., *January 14, 1865—2 p. m.*

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

Arrived here last night. Nothing here from General Thomas or Schofield. The telegraph will not be open beyond Nashville till to-morrow. The necessary boats are ordered to rendezvous at Paducah. I go to Paducah to-night. Will be there to-morrow night, and move up Tuesday, unless counter orders come. Is it decided about moving artillery? The horses can be moved so far as the boats go without much difficulty. Rivers all high, and still rising slowly. Present prospects good. Telegraph can reach me at Paducah.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

20.] LOUISVILLE, *January 14, 1865.*

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: I inclose herewith copy of dispatch sent you this day.* I am disappointed in finding nothing from General Thomas, but learn from two of General Schofield's staff that he is expecting to move, and on consultation with General Allen it is deemed best for me to proceed at

* Probably next, *ante.*

once to Paducah. We have ordered boats from Cairo and all points sufficient for the movement, and have satisfactory replies. I hope to leave Paducah by Tuesday and be at General Schofield's headquarters by Wednesday night or Thursday morning. Everything now looks favorable. Will telegraph you from Paducah.

Very respectfully,

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

21.] WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 12, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. ROBERT ALLEN,
Chief Quartermaster, Louisville, Ky.:

Col. L. B. Parsons left here last night for Louisville, to take general direction of the transportation of Major-General Schofield's corps from the Tennessee River to Chesapeake Bay, just ordered by Lieutenant-General Grant. The movement will be made as far as possible by boats from Eastport. If the state of navigation will allow, the troops will not be debarked till they reach Parkersburg; but if necessary, they will take the railroad, either at Cairo, Evansville, Jeffersonville, or Cincinnati. Colonel Parsons cannot reach Louisville before Friday night; meanwhile please open any dispatches that may be addressed to him, and make all such arrangements respecting steam-boats as, in your judgment, will expedite and facilitate the movement. The troops only will be moved, leaving their transportation behind.

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War.

—

22.] LOUISVILLE, *January 13, 1865.*

General J. L. DONALDSON,
Nashville:

General Schofield's corps is ordered East. Instruct all boats returning from Nashville to go to Paducah, and there wait further orders. Let me know how many steamers you can send from Nashville within two days. Answer immediately. What is the strength of General Schofield's corps?

ROBERT ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

—

23.] NASHVILLE, *January 12* [*14?*], *1865.*

Brigadier-General ALLEN:

Telegram of 12.40 received. I am not positive as to the strength of Major-General Schofield's command, but suppose it is about 15,000 men. No means of knowing any more certainly here. There are but two steamers at Nashville, and they are now loading for Eastport. Everything else gone to Eastport since changed to that base, and nothing returned here. Have sent twenty-six steamers from here in all and none have yet returned, except my dispatch boats, which are not included in the above. All of them ought to be either at Eastport

or down Tennessee within reach. Will instruct all returning steamers from here to repair to Paducah and wait orders as you request. You will remember, of course, that General Schofield's transportation remains at Eastport.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Brigadier-General.

—

24.] NASHVILLE, *January 14, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Chief of Rail and River Transportation:

Generals Thomas and Schofield are at Eastport. The telegraph will be open to Johnsonville to-day and the road by the 1st of February. There is no coal at Johnsonville; some ought to be sent. I send Captain Johnson, assistant quartermaster, to take charge there, by boat this afternoon. You can reach General Thomas by telegram to Paducah. I send boats from here tri-weekly and you can go from here if you please.

J. L. DONALDSON,
Bvt. Brig. Gen., Chief Quartermaster Dept. of the Cumberland.

—

25.] LOUISVILLE, *January 13, 1865.*

Col. W. W. MCKIM,
Cincinnati:

General Schofield's corps is ordered to Chesapeake Bay. It is to embark from Eastport, Tenn., and will, if practicable, go up the Ohio to Parkersburg. All of the steamers at Cincinnati may be required as soon as they can be got ready. Colonel Parsons is on his way from Washington to superintend the movement. He will probably stop to see you. I do not know the strength of General Schofield's corps. How many boats can you furnish? Have boats here for about 5,000 men. Answer immediately.

ROBERT ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

—

26.] CINCINNATI, *January 14, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. ROBERT ALLEN:

Telegram received. Can furnish transports for 5,000 to 7,000 men, if required, by impressing some boats.

WM. W. MCKIM,
Colonel and Chief Quartermaster.

—

27.] LOUISVILLE, *January 13, 1865.*

Capt. H. RASIN,
Assistant Quartermaster, Smithland:

Stop all steamers returning from Nashville, and send them to Paducah to wait further orders. They are wanted to go up the Tennessee to Eastport, to bring down General Schofield's corps.

ROBERT ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

28.] LOUISVILLE, KY., *January 13, 1865.*

Capt. A. C. WOOLFOLK,
Assistant Quartermaster, Cairo:

I want steamers to transport 10,000 men from Eastport, Tenn., to this place. Can I obtain them from Cairo without stopping the transportation of forage? Answer immediately.

ROBERT ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

—

29.] CAIRO, *January 13, 1865.*

General ALLEN:

I can furnish boats for the troops required. It may take a little time to get their crews together.

A. C. WOOLFOLK.

—

30.] LOUISVILLE, *January 13, 1865.*

Capt. J. H. WILSON,
Assistant Quartermaster, Paducah:

I am sending all the hay we can spare direct to Eastport. You require hay only for your own use. The steamers returning from Nashville I am sending to Paducah to wait there for further orders. Stop all steamers returning from Eastport, and keep them there for the present. We want boats sufficient to bring down from Eastport General Schofield's corps. Will give further instructions in time.

ROBERT ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

—

31.] LOUISVILLE, *January 14, 1865—12 m.*

Capt. A. C. WOOLFOLK,
Assistant Quartermaster, Cairo, Ill.:

Send all the boats you can to Paducah by Monday morning early; have an abundance of fuel on board; will require but small crew. Colonel Parsons will be at Paducah to-morrow night. Advise me immediately the boats you send and the number of troops they will carry. No animals, wagons, or artillery to be moved.

ROBERT ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

—

32.] LOUISVILLE, *January 14, 1865.*

Capt. J. H. WILSON,
Assistant Quartermaster, Paducah, Ky.:

Col. L. B. Parsons will be at Paducah to-morrow night. Have a full supply of fuel on board of all the boats to make the trip to Eastport and return, as I have before directed to stop all steamers returning from Eastport and all that come to you from Nashville, and hold them in readiness to go to Eastport.

ROBERT ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

33.] LOUISVILLE, *January 14, 1865.*

General J. L. DONALDSON,
Nashville:

Colonel Parsons is here, sent out from Washington, to superintend the transportation of General Schofield's command. He will leave for Paducah this afternoon. Transports sufficient will assemble at Paducah from Cincinnati, this place, and Cairo in three or four days, and will proceed to Eastport. If practicable, communicate this to General Thomas and General Schofield as soon as possible.

ROBERT ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

—

34.] LOUISVILLE, *January 14, 1865.*

Col. W. W. MCKIM,
Cincinnati:

Send to report to me six good transports as soon as possible, with good supply of coal and ten days' stores. Only a small crew will be needed. Telegraph the names and when I may expect them.

ROBERT ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

—

35.] LOUISVILLE, *January 14, 1865.*

General DONALDSON,
Nashville:

Do you know where Major-Generals Thomas and Schofield are? Can you reach them or Johnsonville by telegraph? Is the railroad working to Johnsonville? Is there any coal there?*

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

36.] LOUISVILLE, *January 14, 1865.*

Capt. ARTHUR EDWARDS,
Assistant Quartermaster, or
Capt. L. S. METCALF,
Assistant Quartermaster, Saint Louis, Mo.:

Come to Cairo and Paducah with Hendricks and Downs, or any other assistant as soon as you can. You must come on train this afternoon if possible. I expect to be there to-morrow.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

37.] CAIRO, *January 16, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

(On train for Saint Louis—sent to Centralia, Ill.)

I am out by orders of the Assistant Secretary of War to assist in moving your army. He said that I should find dispatches from General Thomas at Louisville. Finding nothing I came to Paducah and

For reply, see No. 24, p. 225.

here. What arrangements are made? How soon will the troops be ready to embark? Is there an ample number of boats up the Tennessee? About twenty-five more are at Paducah and here under orders to be ready to go up if required, and can start to-night if necessary. Do you take all your artillery, horses and guns? Please reply as fully as consistent. Say where another dispatch can reach you. It is best to take enough boats to make the troops comfortable.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

38.] CAIRO, ILL., *January 16, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Chief of Rail and River Transportation, Cairo, Ill.:

Major-General Schofield directs me to inform you that boats now at Clifton, Tenn., can bring down not over half of his command. He wishes boats enough sent up to accommodate 10,000 more. There are five mounted batteries to be embarked. Dispatches will reach me here until 7 p. m.; after that at Louisville. I am on my way to Louisville to make arrangements for the transportation of the troops from that point east.

WM. J. TWINING,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

—

39.] LOUISVILLE, *January 14, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS:

Please telegraph me the decision in regard to taking mules and horses.

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

—

40.] WASHINGTON, *January 15, 1865.*

Colonel PARSONS:

Major-General Thomas telegraphed on the 11th that he would have Major-General Schofield's corps assembled at Eastport by yesterday. Of the artillery, the men alone are to be moved.

C. A. DANA.

—

41.] PADUCAH, *January 16, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS:

I am directed, by command of Secretary of War, to send a cipher operator with you up the river. Please furnish him such accommodations as you can.

S. BRUCH,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster,
Asst. Supt. U. S. Mil. Tel., Division of the Mississippi.

42.] CAIRO, ILL., *January 16, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Quartermaster, Cairo, Ill.:

COLONEL: By telegram from Captain Bruch, assistant quartermaster and assistant superintendent military telegraph, I am ordered to report to you as "cipher" clerk and wait your further instructions.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. CASSELL,
United States Military Telegraph Operator.

—

43.] CAIRO, ILL., *January 16, 1865—11.30 a. m.*

Commodore LIVINGSTON, Commanding,
Mound City, Ill.:

Can I have a convoy for fifteen transports from Paducah to Eastport this evening? Time is important.

By order of the Quartermaster-General:

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

44.] MOUND CITY, *January 16, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Chief of Rail and River Transportation, Cairo, Ill.:

Have no vessel here fit to convoy. Apply to Lieutenant Saltonstall, U. S. S. Black Hawk, at Paducah.

J. W. LIVINGSTON,
Commodore and Commandant Naval Station.

—

45.] CAIRO, *January 16, 1865—3 p. m.*

Capt. WILLIAM J. TWINING,
Aide-de-Camp, Odin, Ill.:

Your dispatch is received. I start for Paducah immediately. Expect to leave there in the morning. Everything looks well for compliance with your dispatch.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

46.] CAIRO, *January 16, 1865.*

General ROBERT ALLEN,
Supervising Quartermaster, Louisville, Ky.:

Yours of this date received. I do not think we shall require all the Cincinnati boats, but for perfect safety they had best come down at once. I hope to leave Paducah to-night.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

47.] CAIRO, *January 16, 1865.*

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

Arrived here this morning. Start for Paducah immediately. Will have boats enough there in the morning for the movement, and start early unless detained for convoy. Hope to be at Clifton early Wednesday and start back on Thursday. Weather and river favorable. A cipher telegraph operator accompanies me, according to your order.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

48.] CAIRO, *January 16, 1865.*

Capt. J. H. WILSON,
Assistant Quartermaster, Paducah, Ky.:

Have all the boats take on board at least three days' fuel, and be ready to start on an hour's notice after 10 o'clock to-night, if convoy arrive. Request convoy as soon as possible, as time is important. Will be up this evening.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

49.] CAIRO, *January 16, 1865—3 p. m.*

W. PRESCOTT SMITH,
Master Transportation, Baltimore, Md.:

Everything looks well. You will not probably hear from me again for three days.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

50.] CAIRO, *January 16, 1865.*

Capt. J. H. WILSON,
Assistant Quartermaster, Paducah, Ky.:

I leave here at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

51.] CAIRO, *January 16, 1865.*

W. PRESCOTT SMITH, Esq.,
Master Transpt., Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, Baltimore, Md.:

DEAR SIR: I arrived at Paducah last night. Expect to proceed up the Tennessee to-night. Hope to leave Eastport by Thursday. All will probably be embarked on the same day; hence, I fear if we succeed in going up the Ohio they will all reach Parkersburg or Wheeling within two days. I have endeavored to avoid this in accordance with your request, but with the present views of officers, it cannot be done. Hence, in case we reach you by water, it will be of importance to have the largest preparation practicable. As soon as we get out of the

mouth I will keep you advised by telegraph of our progress and prospects. Would it not be well to prepare for drawing on the Northern Central, and other roads, for additional machinery, if required? I trust all due preparation will be made to make the troops as comfortable as possible, as I found going over the mountains it was very cold, and without fires it would have been extremely uncomfortable. The certified report to me is 3,000 more than was supposed by the Assistant Secretary.

Very truly, yours,

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

52.] CAIRO, *January 16, 1865.*

THOMAS LOUGH, Esq.,
Columbus, Ohio:

I expect to start up the Tennessee to-morrow. Shall be absent about three days, unless there is great change in the weather. Shall not require assistance at present. Please advise Gray and Woodward.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

53.] PADUCAH, *January 16, 1865.*

Capt. J. H. WILSON, *Assistant Quartermaster*, or
Capt. H. L. DOWNS:

You will please notify all the boats connected with the fleet to be moved up the Tennessee River that they are expected to be in readiness to leave promptly on a signal from the gun-boat at the hour of 6 o'clock in the morning, and to proceed in the order and with the vessels to which they have severally been assigned.

Very respectfully,

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

54.] PADUCAH, *January 17, 1865—2 a. m.*

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary, Washington City:

All ready to start at daylight. An iron-clad is in the convoy and it will take two days to reach Clifton.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

55.] LOUISVILLE, *January 16, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Cairo, Ill. (thence to Paducah):

I received the following dispatch from General Schofield: "Please send to Clifton boats for 10,000 men. The boats up the river will bring down the balance." Two boats have just arrived from Cincinnati. No dispatch from the quartermaster.

ROBERT ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

[Confidential.]

56.] COLUMBUS, OHIO, *January 15, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS:

The Messrs. Jewett have consented to my absence. If desired I will therefore be at your service.

T. LOUGH.

—

57.] ON BOARD STEAM-BOAT BERTHA,
Tennessee River, January 17, 1865.

Major-General COUCH,
Commanding Twenty-third Corps:

GENERAL: I am commanded by the Assistant Secretary of War to come out and provide for the transportation of the Twenty-third Army Corps. Receiving no definite information at Louisville from General Thomas, as the Assistant Secretary thought would certainly be the case, I have provided such boats as seemed necessary, and have now with me twenty boats moving up. Of them say six or seven are loaded in full or part with troops or stores. If they can be unloaded at Clifton you will have, I think, ample transportation. If they cannot be unloaded, you can, I think, ship all the balance of your army as far as Paducah, where I will prepare an ample number of boats, of which you can take what you require to make your army comfortable. I think Captain Edwards, assistant quartermaster, can render all the assistance necessary up the river and that I had best go to prepare for you on the Ohio.

I am, very respectfully,

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

P. S.—If this meets General Couch on the river, would it not be well to send it forward to the commanding officer at Clifton?

—

58.] ON BOARD STEAM-BOAT BERTHA,
Tennessee River, January 17, 1865.

Capt. ARTHUR EDWARDS,
Assistant Quartermaster:

You will immediately proceed in charge of the fleet now moving up the river for the transportation of the remaining portion of General Schofield's army corps, now at Clifton. You will have unloaded at Clifton as far as possible the five or six boats now in part loaded with cattle and stores, with all the dispatch possible, and immediately embark the troops thereon, or on as many as shall be necessary. The boats will then proceed to the mouth of the river, where, or on the way up, they will meet with five to seven additional transports which will receive such portions of the corps as it shall be thought best to embark thereon. Having embarked all these troops you will immediately proceed up the Ohio until the commanding general shall give orders for disembarkation. You will take great care to guard against accident by fire and otherwise. You will advise me by telegraph from Johnsonville, Padu-

cah, Louisville, and Cincinnati, using great care in your communication by cipher or otherwise. Should you find it necessary on your arrival you can press five or six boats into the service.

Very respectfully,

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

P. S.—You will take with you Captains Hendricks and Downs, to render you such assistance as you may require, who had best proceed as far as Louisville at least.

L. B. P.

—

59.] OFFICE OF THE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
Louisville, January 16, 1865.

Col. L. B. PARSONS:

COLONEL: I inclose you a copy of a dispatch just received from General Schofield. It is dated, you perceive, at Cairo, but I presume it was sent there from Clifton, as General Schofield cannot be in Cairo. This is about as we expected, that there were boats enough up or on the river to transport 5,000 or 6,000 men. At the time I am now writing (11 o'clock) only two boats have arrived from Cincinnati, and I have not heard from Colonel McKim either by letter or dispatch, although I telegraphed him a second time yesterday. A copy of the dispatch I inclose. I telegraphed you this morning to Paducah and also Cairo. Although you have ordered boats from Cairo to transport 10,000 men, I think it best to send you also the Cincinnati boats. It is better to have a surplus than a deficiency, and the surplus need not go farther than Paducah if you think proper.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

[Inclosure.]

60.] CAIRO, *January 15, 1865.*

General R. ALLEN,
Chief Quartermaster, Louisville, Ky.:

Please send to Clifton transportation for 10,000 men. The boats now up the river will bring down the balance.

SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

—

61.] PADUCAH, *January 18, 1865.*

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

Your two dispatches of yesterday are received. In accordance with my last dispatch we left yesterday morning. Last night we met the entire Second Division and two brigades of the Third, General McLean commanding, 9,000 strong and much overloaded. Ascertaining that I had provided transportation ample for the remainder and deeming it more important that I should return here, I detailed a very competent officer, Capt. Arthur Edwards, to proceed and supervise the embarkation at Clifton. General McLean's command, with additional boats, left this morning at 8 o'clock, and should reach Louisville on Friday

morning. After perfecting arrangements here I shall take rail to-night at Cairo and be at Louisville to-morrow. With the present very high water, transports come from Eastport to Paducah in sixteen to twenty hours, from Clifton in twelve to sixteen hours, from Paducah to Louisville in two days, Cincinnati three days, Parkersburg and Wheeling five to six days.

The remainder of the corps from Clifton should be here between this and morning. Transportation is required for 18,000 to 20,000, with five batteries of mounted artillery.

Dispatches will reach me at Cairo until midnight. Please advise the Baltimore and Ohio.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

62.] CAIRO, *January 18, 1865.*

Colonel PARSONS:

I send you the Florence for towing purposes. Will send you the Lockwood as soon as I can get her ready, and others as rapidly as possible. The Emperor will be at Paducah this a. m., I think, out of the Cumberland and possibly some others. I will report from time to time.

WOOLFOLK,
Assistant Quartermaster.

—

63.] PADUCAH, KY., *January 18, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. ROBERT ALLEN,
Louisville, Ky.:

Started by daylight yesterday with twenty boats. Met about half the corps coming down last night much overloaded. Ascertaining I had sufficient transportation for balance, I detailed Captain Edwards to proceed and supervise transportation from Clifton. Provided additional boats for and started the fleet for Louisville at 8 o'clock this morning. Transportation is required for nearly 20,000. I shall perfect arrangements here to-day and leave Cairo for Louisville to-night by rail. Only two boats in from Cincinnati. Everything looks well so far.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

64.] SMITHLAND, *January 18, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Chief of Rail and River Transportation:

Five or six boats at this place. The last indorsement on their orders is to proceed to Smithland and coal. General McLean has gone ahead without leaving further orders. Shall I order the boats to follow him?

H. RASIN,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

65.] PADUCAH, KY., *January 18, 1865.*

Capt. H. RASIN,
Assistant Quartermaster, Smithland, Ky.:

All boats connected with the Twenty-third Army Corps should be ordered to follow the corps up the river as rapidly as possible. You will direct the captains of the transports to make no delays not absolutely necessary.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

P. S.—Will you please direct Captain Johnson to send back boat immediately?

L. B. P.

—

66.] PADUCAH, KY., *January 18, 1865.*

Capt. H. RASIN,
Assistant Quartermaster, Smithland, Ky.:

I shall send five or six boats for coal this morning. We are almost out here. Shall also send you fifteen or twenty again within two days. Send word by any opportunity to the miners to get out all the coal they can.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

67.] SMITHLAND, *January 18, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Chief Quartermaster, Paducah, Ky.:

Your dispatch received. Will provide coal for such boats as you may send. Have sent an agent to the mines to have coal in readiness for the vessels as they pass.

H. RASIN,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

—

68.] CAIRO, ILL., *January 18, 1865.*

Colonel PARSONS,
Paducah:

The Denning, Lockwood, and Julia are the only boats that are in port that can be gotten out with any kind of dispatch. I think I can get them to you by midnight. If any other boats get in from below I will send you one or two more there. There should be boats out of the Cumberland, as the Emperor was reported to have left Nashville yesterday morning. The Decatur, Kennett, and others are due. If possible let the Emperor and barge come on, as General Allen seems to be hurrying forage to Eastport, and she has another barge waiting her here. The Pringle is also to be at Paducah going up loaded and may possibly be used to return troops from above. Please let me know precisely how you are fixed and what is the best you can do with.

WOOLFOLK,
Assistant Quartermaster.

69.] PADUCAH, *January 18, 1865.*

Capt. A. C. WOOLFOLK,
Assistant Quartermaster, Cairo, Ill.:

I have ordered the Emperor to Cairo as you desire, though she has part of a load for Eastport. Load her as soon and as fully as you can. She leaves at once. Can't you take the Florence for Eastport? The Pringle has gone up the river.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

70.] CAIRO, ILL., *January 18, 1865—10 a. m.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS:

The Julia, Lockwood, and Maria Denning are getting ready, but cannot possibly be at Paducah before to-morrow morning. The Florence will leave in half an hour.

A. C. WOOLFOLK,
Assistant Quartermaster.

—

71.] PADUCAH, *January 18, 1865.*

CAPTAIN OF STEAMER EMPEROR,
Paducah, Ky.:

Owing to the large number of boats necessarily taken to move the Twenty-third Army Corps and to the urgent demands of General Allen for the transportation of forage from Cairo to Eastport, you will proceed from this point to Cairo, and there take as soon as possible a load of forage and proceed at once to Eastport, on your regular trips between Nashville and Eastport. This diversion to Cairo, if due diligence is used, should not interfere with your weekly trips as required by General Donaldson. Captain Woolfolk will delay you as little as possible in obtaining your load.

By order of Quartermaster-General:

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

72.] PADUCAH, *January 18, 1865.*

Capt. ARTHUR EDWARDS,
Assistant Quartermaster:

I find that General Couch passed you last night without you seeing him and is here this morning. He advises me there are not exceeding 7,000 men, at the outside, left, and that there will be two or three large boats from Eastport in addition to those you have. This being true, you are provided amply for transportation. Of the six boats ordered from Cincinnati I have given one to General McLean and two to General Couch, leaving three that will be here to-night, which will be taken by you to furnish additional transportation, or you can discharge other boats, and take these in place of them. The following is a list of the boats which came down with me connected with General McLean's command: Bertha, Swallow, Minnehaha, Cora S., Clara Poe, Charmer, Financier, Leni Leoti, Burd Levi, Marmora, A. Baker, Havana, Echo, Mercury, Baldwin, Tyrone.

General McLean being very much overcrowded, at his request I gave him the following boats in addition: Navigator, Omaha, Brilliant, Alex. Speer, and Fannie Brandies, five in number, making twenty-one boats attached to his fleet, and one barge loaded with artillery. The boats which came down with General Couch are the Izetta, Palestine, Huntsman, Science No. 2, in addition to which I have given him here the W. F. Curtis and Kate Robinson. This will leave for you here the Blackford, Majestic, and Iron City. It does not seem possible that there can be any deficiency in transportation. Should I be mistaken, you can take any other boat you think proper. You will take the general control of all the above boats, should you overtake any of them, as well as those coming down with you subject, of course, to the orders of commanding generals. I fear some of them may lag behind; if so you will give such imperative orders as shall press them forward. I expect to be in Louisville to-morrow (Thursday) night, and leave there some time the next day. On arriving here you will telegraph me fully, to be sent in cipher, to care of General Allen, at Louisville and again to Cincinnati, from Evansville and Louisville. If I am gone they will be forwarded. I may telegraph you at Evansville and Louisville through the quartermaster. Would it not be well to keep Captains Hendricks and Downs with you as far as you go? I leave it for your discretion. When you cannot telegraph in cipher, telegraph as fully as you can safely. Be sure to take boats enough to make the troops comfortable.

Hoping for your entire success, I am sincerely, yours,

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

73.] WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 17, 1865—11 a. m.*

Colonel PARSONS:

Schofield's corps is to be taken to Alexandria, Va., instead of Annapolis, Md.

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War.

—

74.] WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 17, 1865.*

Colonel PARSONS:

C. A. Dana directs me to inquire the length of time it takes loaded transports to come from Eastport to Paducah and from Paducah to Cincinnati. Please answer.

OPERATOR.

—

75.] ODIN, ILL., *January 19, 1865.*

Capt. J. H. WILSON,
Assistant Quartermaster, Paducah, Ky.:

Please see they get boats enough to be comfortable, and advise me here if Edwards arrives before 8 o'clock.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

76.] PADUCAH, KY., *January 19, 1865—2.30 p. m.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Assistant Quartermaster, Odin, Ill.:

Balance of the corps just arrived in five boats under General Ruger. Boats are now coaling. Captain Edwards not with them.

J. H. WILSON,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

—

77.] ODIN, *January 19, 1865.*

QUARTERMASTER AT EVANSVILLE, ILL.:

Please inform at 4 o'clock this evening whether the Brilliant has passed up, and, if so, the hour. Also give me the name of all boats having passed up since 10 o'clock last night. Reply here.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

78.] EVANSVILLE, *January 19, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Chief of Rail and River Transportation:

The Brilliant passed up about 6 o'clock this morning. The following boats have passed this point up to 3 p. m., as near as can be ascertained: Minnehaha, Burd Levi, Cora S., Charmer, Bertha, Leni Leoti, Tyrone, Fannie Brandies, Kate Robinson, Swallow, J. H. Baldwin, Clara Poe, Marmora, Alex. Speer, Omaha, Navigator, Havana, Palestine, Echo No. 2, A. Baker, Mercury, Financier, and W. F. Curtis. Will telegraph the remaining this evening.

I. W. HART,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

—

79.] ODIN, *January 19, 1865.*

General ROBERT ALLEN,
Louisville, Ky.:

Missed connection; cannot get to Louisville before morning. Dispatches will reach me here until 8 o'clock. Had I best push on to Cincinnati or go to L.? All right at midnight when I left.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

79½.] LOUISVILLE, *January 19, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
On No. 4, Odin, Ill.:

No transports have yet arrived. I think you had better come this way. You will be in time to go up with the troops.

R. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

80.] ODIN, *January 19, 1865.*

Capt. A. C. WOOLFOLK,
Assistant Quartermaster, Cairo, Ill.:

Missed connection. Advise Captain Wilson and request him to send me all the news here until 8 o'clock to-night.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

81.] SMITHLAND, *January 18, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Chief Quartermaster, &c.:

All boats left here soon after I telegraphed you.

H. RASIN,
Assistant Quartermaster.

—

82.] ODIN, *January 19, 1865.*

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

Missed connection here. Will be in Louisville in the morning. Dispatches just received showing about half the corps had passed Louisville by 3 o'clock to-day, and all the balance in the Ohio at that hour.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

83.] ODIN, *January 19, 1865.*

General ROBERT ALLEN,
Louisville, Ky.:

Balance all reached Paducah about 3 o'clock this afternoon. I telegraphed you this noon. Did you get it?

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

84.] LOUISVILLE, *January 20, 1865.*

Colonel MCKIM,
Chief Quartermaster, Cincinnati, Ohio:

Please see Mr. W. H. Clement, president, or E. W. Woodward, superintendent, of Little Miami Railroad, as soon as possible and arrange for transportation of 10,000 to-morrow and 10,000 Sunday. The utmost energy and prompt attention are necessary. They are arriving here now. Obtain military orders for taking cars at all points necessary. See that as many cars as possible have stoves in and a large supply of straw or hay, and one tier of seats around the inside of the car. Mr. Woodward, the superintendent, assured me he would make all arrangements required. Acknowledge the receipt of this and telegraph me hourly the progress. All other trains on the road must necessarily yield to this movement. Say to these gentlemen that I earnestly solicit

their every effort to make the movement a success. Lough and Gray at Columbus will give every assistance they can. What is the condition of navigation as to ice at Cincinnati?

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

85.] LOUISVILLE, *January 20, 1865.*

THOMAS LOUGH, or
D. S. GRAY,
Columbus, Ohio:

Now arriving here; do not think will be at Cincinnati to-morrow before noon; balance next day. I have telegraphed Clement that you will do everything you can. Please act with your accustomed energy and promptness, and see that all cars are as comfortable as possible, supplied with stoves, straw, and seats around the inside. Telegraph Clement or Woodward. I suppose all trains should be stopped going from the East. I go to Cincinnati to-night by rail. Telegraph Caldwell at Zanesville and reply here. Answer soon.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

86.] LOUISVILLE, *January 19, 1865.*

W. H. CLEMENT, or
WOODWARD,
Little Miami Railroad, Cincinnati, Ohio:

Have telegraphed Colonel McKim fully. See him as soon as possible. Half are now arriving here. Will be at Cincinnati to-morrow morning. Please do not have an hour's delay. I ask your accustomed energy in making the movement a success.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

87.] LOUISVILLE, *January 20, 1865.*

Capt. I. W. HART,
Assistant Quartermaster, Evansville, Ind.:

Telegraph at 4 o'clock all boats that have passed up since your dispatch of 3 o'clock yesterday, and telegraph Sunday morning to Cincinnati, care of Colonel McKim, all that have passed up to that time.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

88.] LOUISVILLE, *January 20, 1865.*

Colonel MCKIM,
Chief Quartermaster, Cincinnati, Ohio:

There will be about 20,000 troops and 800 animals. Two thousand will arrive at Cincinnati in the morning.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

89.] LOUISVILLE, *January 20, 1865.*

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

Fleet now arriving here. Weather cold. Ice forming in the river. Navigation below Pittsburg reported unsafe by ice. All well advised boatmen agree that it would be entirely unsafe attempting to go above Cincinnati until a change of weather for several days. Hence, on consultation with General Schofield and General Allen, have ordered transportation by rail from Cincinnati. They will begin to leave from Cincinnati to-morrow, and arrive there as fast as the roads can transport them.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

90.] LOUISVILLE, *January 20, 1865.*

W. PRESCOTT SMITH, Esq.,
Master of Transpt., Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Baltimore, Md.:

Now arriving here. Owing to ice in the river will be compelled to take cars at Cincinnati. About one-third to-morrow noon and the balance the two following days. The number is about one-third more than was supposed when I left W. Will you see that coffee is provided every six or eight hours in large quantities? I go to Cincinnati to-night. Let me hear from you. Cannot you get machinery from the Pennsylvania Central and the Northern Cross [Central?] Railroad, so as to move more than you suggested? Please see cars are thoroughly provided with hay or straw and stoves, as the weather threatens to be very cold. I would suggest one tier of seats around the inside of the car.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

91.] LOUISVILLE, *January 20, 1865.*

QUARTERMASTER, or
AGENT OF BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD,
Parkersburg, Va.:

Please tell me the condition and the prospects of the river for the next three days as to ice and navigation.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

92.] LOUISVILLE, *January 20, 1865.*

QUARTERMASTER, or
AGENT OF BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD,
Wheeling, Va.:

Please tell me the condition and prospects of the river for the next three days as to ice and navigation.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

93.] LOUISVILLE, *January 20, 1865.*

Capt. FRANK. ERNST,
Assistant Quartermaster, Louisville, Ky.:

CAPTAIN: You are instructed to detain the steamers (connected with the mail line between Cincinnati and Louisville) at Louisville until detachments of troops can be concentrated and taken on board.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

94.] LOUISVILLE, *January 20, 1865.*

Capt. FRANK. ERNST,
Assistant Quartermaster, Louisville, Ky.:

CAPTAIN: You are hereby authorized and instructed to take possession of the Louisville and Portland Canal for such a period of time as is required to pass the fleet of transports bearing troops to this city and to points above.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

95.] LOUISVILLE, KY., *January 20, 1865.*

Capt. FRANK. ERNST,
Assistant Quartermaster, Louisville, Ky.:

CAPTAIN: You will require the assistance of Captain Varble and Capt. B. C. Levi to assist in receiving and reshipping troops to this post. You are hereby authorized to employ the above-named parties.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

96.] LOUISVILLE, *January 20, 1865.*

General SCHOFIELD,
Louisville, Ky.:

The Cora S. came up here with sick, who have been taken off and put into the hospital here. I desire to put 300 or 400 troops on her and send to Cincinnati to-night. The physician in charge desires some order before, he says, he can properly surrender the boat for such purposes. He says he sees no reason why it could not be so used. Will you not please indorse on this authority for me to use this boat for this purpose?

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

[Indorsement.]

97.] HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE OHIO,
Louisville, January 20, 1865.

Coloned Parsons is hereby authorized to take possession of the steamer Cora S. and use her for the purpose named within.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

98.] BALTIMORE, *January 20, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS:

(Care Colonel McKim, chief quartermaster, Cincinnati, Ohio.)

Your dispatch from Odin received 12 noon Friday. River said to be closed in part. How will you send to us? Answer.

W. P. SMITH.

—

99.] CINCINNATI, *January 20, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS:

(Care of General Allen, Louisville, Ky.)

Telegram received. Mr. Clement is absent. Mr. Woodward will be here this evening. Present indications are not more than 3,000 men can be moved to-morrow. If any additional transportation can be had will advise you. Weather is moderating, but can't calculate on safe navigation for next three or four days even if thaw ensues. Boats can come to Cincinnati. Will telegraph you again to-night. I have a dispatch from W. P. Smith, Baltimore, concerning the river, and have telegraphed him that first shipment by rail to Bellaire will start in the morning.

W. W. McKIM,
Colonel, &c.

—

100.] EVANSVILLE, *January 20, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Chief of Rail and River Transportation, Louisville, Ky.:

The following boats have passed this point since 3 o'clock p. m. yesterday: St. Patrick, Huntsman, Science, Nashville, Sherman, Victory, Tarascon, Morning Star, Imperial, Emerald, Nora, Fanny Gilbert, Norman; some passed up during the night without stopping.

I. W. HART,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

—

101.] EVANSVILLE, *January 20, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Louisville, Ky.:

The Stephen Decatur and Champion have passed up since my last dispatch at 2 p. m.

I. W. HART,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

—

102.] LOUISVILLE, *January 20, 1865.*

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

About one-half are here or have passed up. I go to Cincinnati by rail.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

103.] LOUISVILLE, KY., *January 20, 1865.*

Colonel MCKIM,
Chief Quartermaster, Cincinnati, Ohio:

I regret to hear progress is so slow. Can you not put on force and assist? More than one-third have passed up. Advise the roads that if they cannot move them promptly I will stop a part to-morrow and send by Indianapolis.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

104.] LOUISVILLE, *January 20, 1865.*

E. W. WOODWARD,
Superintendent Little Miami Railroad, Cincinnati, Ohio:

I am sorry to hear so few can be moved to-morrow. If you cannot move them promptly I will stop a part and send by Indianapolis. More than one-third have passed up.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

105.] CINCINNATI, *January 21, 1865.*

Colonel CROSS, *Quartermaster*, or
AGENT BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD,
Pittsburg, Pa.:

Please advise me immediately the condition of the river as to ice and navigation.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

106.] CINCINNATI, *January 21, 1865.*

THOMAS LOUGH, or
D. S. GRAY,
Columbus, Ohio:

It is reported you are lacking in facilities and ability to make the large transportation desired, and as you thought when I saw you you would be able to do. Please advise me definitely and as early as practicable. I will give any orders you may desire for taking machinery at any point for the use of your road. I know there are no difficulties not insuperable which you will not conquer. Pray give every instruction and use every means to secure the most perfect safety in passing from Columbus to Wheeling; also keep the agent of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad advised of your progress.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

107.] COLUMBUS, OHIO, *January 21, 1865.*

LEWIS B. PARSONS, *Colonel, &c., Cincinnati, Ohio:*

We are prepared to move all the trains brought us promptly to Wheeling. Will exercise all imaginable care for safety and comfort of the soldiers. We have a large force now at work unloading cars to send to Cincinnati.

T. LOUGH.

108.] CINCINNATI, *January 21, 1865.*

QUARTERMASTER, or
AGENT BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD,
Parkersburg, Va.:

Please advise me immediately the condition of the river as to ice and navigation. I telegraphed you yesterday and got no reply.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

109.] CINCINNATI, *January 21, 1865.*

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

One train started last night. We hope to get off from 5,000 to 6,000 to-day and 4,000 to 5,000 to-morrow. It is reported there is difficulty on the Baltimore and Ohio road preventing a rapid transportation. Please ascertain the facts from Mr. Garrett. Would it not be well to direct the military officers commanding along that road to use extraordinary care in guarding bridges, &c.? Time from here to Wheeling will be about twenty hours. I shall remain here to-day and to-morrow.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

110.] WASHINGTON, *January 21, 1865—8 p. m.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Cincinnati, Ohio:

Mr. Garrett informs me that there is nothing to cause delay on any part of his road.

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War.

—

111.] CINCINNATI, *January 21, 1865.*

QUARTERMASTER, or
AGENT BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD,
Wheeling, Va.:

Please advise me immediately the condition of the river as to ice and navigation. I telegraphed you yesterday and got no reply.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

112.] WHEELING, VA., *January 21, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Chief of Rail and River Transportation:
(Care Colonel McKim, Cincinnati, Ohio.)

Five feet of water in the channel. Navigation is entirely suspended by floating ice.

GUS. ARTSMAN,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

113.] CINCINNATI, *January 21, 1865.*

Lieutenant-Colonel MACFEELY,
Cincinnati, Ohio:

In the present movement of troops it is of great importance that ample preparation be made in the way of commissaries, especially in preparing as often as once in six to eight hours an abundant supply of hot coffee to be given to each train as it passes. The arrangement should be made as perfect, not only in the way of supply, but in facilities for furnishing it as rapidly as is practicable. I have therefore to request that you will as promptly as possible make such arrangements by telegraph and otherwise as will secure the end desired and prevent all possibility of failure in so important a matter.

By order of Secretary of War:

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

114.] CINCINNATI, *January 21, 1865.*

W. PRESCOTT SMITH,
Master Transpt., Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Baltimore, Md.:

To whom shall I telegraph to Wheeling and Parkersburg? I do not get replies from there. One-third left to-day. Can I not take 2,000 or 3,000 daily via Marietta road?

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

115.] BALTIMORE, *January 21, 1865—5.30 p. m.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Cincinnati, Ohio:

Telegraph J. B. Ford, Wheeling, or S. C. Gale, Parkersburg. Take 1,000 per day at least, via Marietta road, if river will permit their transfer at Parkersburg. We are pressing equipment to river from this end, and coffee and other arrangements fully understood. Advise me every five hours.

W. P. SMITH.

—

116.] LOUISVILLE, *January 21, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS:
(Care Colonel McKim, Cincinnati, Ohio.)

The following-named boats have passed through canal since you left: Charmer, Financier, Marmora, Alex. Speer, Mercury, Havana, Navigator, Palestine, Huntsman, Kate Robinson, W. F. Curtis, Nightingale. As soon as coaled will proceed immediately.

FRANK. ERNST,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

117.] CINCINNATI, *January 21, 1865.*

W. PRESCOTT SMITH,
Master Transpt., Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Baltimore, Md.:

The weather is changing rapidly; rain is commencing. It may be safe in the morning to start boats for Parkersburg. If so, I shall send more than one-half that way. Will keep you advised. Has there been any arrangement for coffee on your road?

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

(See answer, 144.)

—

118.] CINCINNATI, *January 21, 1865.*

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

The weather is becoming much warmer; rain commencing. If it is deemed safe in the morning I shall start more than one-half for Parkersburg.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

119.] WASHINGTON, *January 21, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Cincinnati, Ohio:

Cannot you use the Marietta road? A great deal of transportation was accumulated for you at Parkersburg.

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War.

—

120.] CINCINNATI, *January 21, 1865.*

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

Your dispatch of this day just received. I can send 2,000 or 3,000 to-morrow over the Marietta road; but yesterday it was reported that even a ferry-boat could not cross there. I have also just received dispatch from the agent of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at Parkersburg as follows: "Navigation suspended at this point. Prospects are that it will continue for three or four days." I think the safest way is to send 5,000 or 6,000 to-day and to morrow to Wheeling and the balance up the river. if to-morrow it appears safe to do so.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

121.] CINCINNATI, OHIO, *January 20, 1865—5.15 p. m.*

W. P. SMITH,
Master of Transpt., Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Baltimore, Md.:

Your message to Colonel Parsons received. Troops will go from here by rail; expect to start first train of about 4,000 to Bellaire to-morrow morning.

W. W. McKIM,
Colonel and Chief Quartermaster.

122.] CINCINNATI, OHIO, *January 21, 1865.*

Capt. R. BURR, or
ARMY QUARTERMASTER,
Columbus, Ohio:

The necessities of the Government require several hundred cars to move troops immediately. You will therefore make requisitions at once on such roads as can soonest furnish them for at least 200 good, safe cars, suitable for moving troops, and if any road fails or refuses to deliver them promptly you will immediately take possession of the cars and deliver them to Thomas Lough or D. S. Gray and J. W. Doherty, with whom you will at once consult before further action.

By order of Secretary of War:

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

123.] CINCINNATI, *January 21, 1865.*

H. J. JEWETT,
President Central Ohio Railroad, Zanesville, Ohio:

We expect to send over 400 cars to you in the next three days. Say 200 to-morrow morning. It seems to me necessary to stop all other trains after to-night. Do you not concur for safety? I would suggest that all trains be limited to ten to twelve miles per hour.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

124.] COLUMBUS, OHIO, *January 21, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Cincinnati, Ohio:

We have suspended all but our through passenger trains and will have power here sufficient to move the trains as they arrive from Cincinnati. We have reduced the rate of speed to the maximum of ten miles per hour. If power is needed will also suspend passenger trains.

H. J. JEWETT.

—

125.] CINCINNATI, *January 21, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS:
(Care General R. Allen, Louisville, Ky.)

COLONEL: The following is a copy of telegram sent you this a. m. in reply to your dispatch of this date, viz:

I shall probably have cars enough for the troops as they arrive; shall know positively in a few hours.

If the rain now falling and moderate weather continue, as appearances indicate, the boats can proceed to Parkersburg by to-morrow night, which will be safer and better for the men.

Will you authorize me to order the boats to proceed, if deemed judicious?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. McKIM,
Colonel and Chief Quartermaster.

126.] PADUCAH, *January 20, 1865—5 a. m.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS.

(Care General Allen, chief quartermaster, Louisville, Ky.)

The troops are all on their way up the Ohio River. We leave with some 300 at 4 a. m. this morning and will overtake them to-day.

ARTHUR EDWARDS,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

—

127.] COLUMBUS, OHIO, *January 21, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Cincinnati, Ohio:

The trains which left here this a. m. for Bellaire are stopped at Zanesville to cook their rations. Cannot this be avoided by providing cooked rations at those places by the military authorities? It will avoid great delay.

T. LOUGH.

—

128.] CINCINNATI, *January 21, 1865.*

THOMAS LOUGH,
Columbus, Ohio:

The trains leaving to-day and hereafter will all have five days' cooked rations. The commissary has assured me that arrangements should be made for hot coffee at Columbus and Bellaire.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

129.] CINCINNATI, *January 21, 1865.*

SAMUEL C. GALE,
Agent Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Parkersburg, Va.:

Please telegraph me as early in the morning as consistent whether there is any change in the prospect for navigation, and also to-morrow evening.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

130.] PARKERSBURG, *January 21, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Cincinnati, Ohio:

Navigation suspended at this point. Prospects are that it will continue for some three or four days.

SAMUEL C. GALE.

—

131.] BALTIMORE, *January 21, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Cincinnati, Ohio:

I have your dispatch from Louisville,* and your letter from Paducah.† Increase of numbers with five sets of vehicles is a surprise to us, but

* See 20th, p. 241. † See 16th, p. 230.

will make every effort. I fear provision of coffee not within our possibility, as a commissary officer should make such arrangement. I will, however, telegraph.

W. P. SMITH.

—

132.] EVANSVILLE, *January 21, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS:

(Care of Colonel McKim, Cincinnati, Ohio.)

The following have passed up since Thursday morning, as near as can be ascertained, some having passed up during the night without stopping: Brilliant, Kate Robinson, Palestine, Charmer, Marmora, Fannie Brandies, Havana, Cora S., Clara Poe, Mercury, Navigator, Minnehaha, Burd Levi, Swallow, J. H. Baldwin, Echo No. 2, A. Baker, Bertha, Leni Leoti, Alex. Speer, W. F. Curtis, Huntsman, Nashville, Tarascon, Nora, Stephen Decatur, Tyrone, Science, Nightingale, Morning Star, Fanny Gilbert, Caroline, Omaha, Izetta, Sherman, Imperial, Norman, Financier, St. Patrick, Victory, Emerald, Champion.

I. W. HART,

Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

—

133.] COLUMBUS, *January 21, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,

Cincinnati, Ohio:

How many men do you propose to move each day positively? I understand you not to exceed 4,000, as that would be the limit of the Baltimore and Ohio facilities. This can be done without large demand from other roads; while 200 cars, which would carry 8,000 men, will require a great number of extra engines. I would suggest that no more men be started from Cincinnati each day than can be disposed of by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad daily at Bellaire. Please answer.

T. LOUGH.

—

134.] BALTIMORE, *January 21, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,

Cincinnati, Ohio:

Am I to understand that whole movement will be made by Benwood, or are part to come by Marietta road, and what part?

W. P. SMITH.

—

135.] PARKERSBURG, *January 21, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,

Cincinnati, Ohio:

Your dispatch just received. Did not receive dispatch of 20th instant. The weather is moderating, and ice thawing very rapidly. Boats left here for Cincinnati and Wheeling this p. m.

B. F. KELLEY, JR.,

Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

136.] BALTIMORE, *January 21, 1865—8.30 p. m.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Cincinnati, Ohio:

Your dispatch of 2 p. m. received 8 p. m. I note what you say about expected change in river. Please keep us advised. Coffee matters all arranged. I have telegraphed you three times to-day.

W. P. SMITH.

—

137.] CINCINNATI, *January 21, 1865.*

W. PRESCOTT SMITH,
Master Transpt., Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Baltimore, Md.:

From 4,000 to 5,000 left to-day by rail via Columbus. About the same number will probably leave to-morrow, and the same next day. If ice will admit some 5,000 to 7,000 will start for Parkersburg on boat to-morrow, or next day. If not, they will go the same as the balance, unless you direct by rail to Marietta. Your agent at Parkersburg telegraphed me this morning that navigation was entirely suspended at Parkersburg, and likely to be for three or four days. Captain Kelley reports late this evening that it is thawing rapidly. Do not blame me for sending troops so fast, or that there are so many. I could not change it. General Schofield expects there will be some detention, but is anxious to get them along as fast as he can. He does not expect anything unreasonable from you. Arrangements for coffee have been made at Wheeling and Columbus.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

138.] CINCINNATI, *January 21, 1865.*

General ROBERT ALLEN,
Quartermaster, Louisville, Ky.:

Boats detained somewhat by fog last night, but are now arriving rapidly. We have arrangements for sending 7,000 to 8,000 a day. Navigation at Parkersburg reported as suspended and not likely to be open for two or three days.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation

—

139.] CINCINNATI, *January 22, 1865.*

AGENT BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD,
Wheeling, Va.:

General Schofield and staff and about 200 guard left here at 8 a. m. via Columbus for Wheeling to proceed over Baltimore and Ohio Railroad to-night by your regular train or otherwise. Be prepared and telegraph to General Schofield stating your arrangements by my request, and answer here.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

140.] WHEELING, *January 22, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Chief of Rail and River Transportation, Cincinnati, Ohio:

We will have transportation ready for General Schofield on arrival at Bellaire.

J. B. FORD,
Agent Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

—

141.] CINCINNATI, OHIO, *January 22, 1865.*

Captain KELLEY, or
SAMUEL C. GALE,
Parkersburg, Va.:

I telegraphed you Saturday night without reply asking in reference to navigation and ice this morning. Please advise me immediately and also to-morrow morning early.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

142.] CINCINNATI, *January 22, 1865.*

W. PRESCOTT SMITH,
Baltimore, Md.:

Your three dispatches of yesterday received. I telegraphed you fully late last night. A dense fog for the last thirty hours suspended navigation entirely, hence we have only forwarded to 6 p. m. this day about 6,000; are now loading and expect to get off to-night 2,000 more. Shall probably send 3,000 to 4,000 more to-morrow, all by Columbus. If it is certainly safe to send by river shall probably send 6,000 to 7,000 to Parkersburg by boat to-morrow evening or next day. Will advise you in the morning. I am confident we are acting most prudently in the course we are pursuing—have been surrounded by doubt and uncertainty. Will reserve most of the animals and artillery for the last.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

143.] CINCINNATI, *January 22, 1865.*

W. PRESCOTT SMITH,
Baltimore, Md.:

I suppose you are advised that the destination has been changed to Alexandria. Some of the troops have orders for Annapolis. Please immediately give such orders as will prevent going to Annapolis and send them directly to Alexandria. Columbus is instructed to promptly notify your agent at Wheeling of the force of all trains passing. Answer.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

144.] BALTIMORE, *January 23, 1865.*
(Received 9 a. m. 24th.)

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Cincinnati, Ohio:

Your dispatches of 8 and 10 p. m. Sunday received, three in number. Commissary-General has now fixed about coffee matter. I understand about change of destination to Alexandria. Weather is very bad in this longitude from sleet, snow, and rain, but we are on the alert and hope to do the thing effectively. Please keep Wheeling and Parkersburg constantly advised from Cincinnati and Columbus.

W. PRESCOTT SMITH.

—

145.] CINCINNATI, *January 22, 1865—8 p. m.*

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War:

Your dispatch of yesterday received. Owing to the dense fog entirely suspending navigation for thirty hours boats have not arrived as fast as was expected. Have sent up to 6 p. m., via Columbus, about 6,000. Are loading and expect to send over 2,000 to-night and about 4,000 to-morrow. If the river is certainly safe shall probably send balance on boats to Parkersburg, to arrive by the time the others are moved from Wheeling. Have been surrounded by uncertainties and taken the safest course.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

146.] CINCINNATI, *January 22, 1865—8 p. m.*

THOMAS LOUGH,
Columbus, Ohio:

Please be sure and promptly notify the agent of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at Wheeling of the number of troops and animals in each train as they pass Columbus. Has coffee been provided for all trains by the commissary? Woodward answered your dispatch to me last night. Are all trains going well on the Central?

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

147.] COLUMBUS, OHIO, *January 23, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Transportation Quartermaster, Cincinnati, Ohio:

I notify J. B. Ford, agent Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at Wheeling, immediately upon the departure from here of the number of cars, animals, cars of baggage, and cars of troops on each train, in order that they may furnish the same facilities. Our trains are moving very nicely at their limited speed of ten miles per hour. Coffee is prepared here and delivered at each car at the same moment. Captain Goodrich is here watching every movement, and so far everything has gone well.

T. LOUGH,
Superintendent.

148.] CINCINNATI, OHIO, *January 22, 1865.*

J. B. FORD,

Agent Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Wheeling, Va.:

Did you get my dispatch of this morning, stating General Schofield would be in Wheeling to-night with 200 troops to go immediately east? Has the commissary provided abundance of coffee for troops at Bellaire? Do you receive prompt information from Columbus of the force of trains passing there? How are you getting on?

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

149.] WHEELING, *January 23, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,

Cincinnati, Ohio:

Yes; to all your inquiries. We telegraphed you and General Schofield. We have special trains in waiting for general, staff, and guards. Dispatched east, from the river, the first trains at 5.10 a. m. Our arrangements are perfected for prompt movement. We have suspended one of our passenger trains, and will suspend both if necessary.

J. B. FORD.

—

150.] CINCINNATI, OHIO, *January 22, 1865.*

General J. M. SCHOFIELD:

(Care J. B. Ford, agent Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Wheeling, Va.)

I telegraphed the agent at Wheeling early this morning of your coming. Do you find everything satisfactory? A dense fog has prevailed all day, preventing arrival of boats. We will, however, come nearly up to my dispatch of last night. How about the river?

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

151.] BENWOOD, W. VA., *January 23, 1865.*

Colonel PARSONS,

Chief of Transportation, Cincinnati, Ohio:

Your dispatch of yesterday is received. All arrangements seem very satisfactory, and I think the troops will go through all right. I start east at 12 o'clock, and expect to go through on passenger time. I think delay on Columbus road was not due to any fault of the superintendent, but to that of the conductors and local agents.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

—

152.] BALTIMORE, *January 22, 1865—3.30 p. m.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,

Cincinnati, Ohio:

We are providing rapidly to meet exigency both at Benwood and Wheeling. Coffee will be ready at Benwood, but have had to telegraph

Commissary-General at Washington to give specific orders to Grafton, Cumberland, Martinsburg, and Sandy Hook. Won't you send some by Marietta road?

W. P. SMITH,
Master Transportation.

—

153.] CINCINNATI, *January 22, 1865—10 p. m.*

W. P. SMITH,
Baltimore, Md.:

Your dispatch of this day received. I regret you have had so much trouble about coffee. It should not have been so. I have advised you fully to-night at 8 o'clock as to sending to Parkersburg. I may conclude in the morning to send some by the Marietta road.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

154.] PARKERSBURG, *January 23, 1865.*

Colonel PARSONS,
Cincinnati, Ohio:

Navigation has been resumed this morning; boats leaving here for Wheeling and Pittsburg.

SAML. C. GALE,
Agent.

—

155.] EVANSVILLE, *January 23, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS:
(Care Colonel McKim, Cincinnati, Ohio.)

Steamers Emma Floyd, Naugatuck, and Argyle have passed up since my dispatch of yesterday.

I. W. HART,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

—

156.] PARKERSBURG, *January 23, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Cincinnati, Ohio:

When may I expect the troops here? Please answer quick.

SAM. C. GALE.

—

157.] CINCINNATI, *January 23, 1865—11.30 a. m.*

SAMUEL C. GALE,
Agent, Parkersburg, Va.:

About 3,000 will start this evening and reach you in from two to two and a half days. Will advise you when others start.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

158.] CINCINNATI, *January 23, 1865—10 a. m.*

SAMUEL C. GALE,
Agent, Parkersburg, Va.:

Six hundred to 1,000 troops left Louisville for Parkersburg nearly a week ago. I can hear nothing from them. Have they arrived? If so, they are to proceed immediately with the Twenty-third Army Corps. Let me hear from you as soon as possible. What is the condition of the river? I have telegraphed several times without any reply.

LEWIS B. PARSONS.

—

159.] PARKERSBURG, *January 23, 1865*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Cincinnati, Ohio:

No troops have arrived here yet. River full of floating ice and but few boats running. Your dispatches have been answered daily.

SAML. C. GALE,
Agent.

—

159½.] EVANSVILLE, *January 23, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS:
(Care Colonel McKim, Cincinnati, Ohio.)

The Des Moines passed up at 2 p. m. Said to be the last of the fleet.

I. W. HART,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

—

160.] CINCINNATI, *January 23, 1865.*

W. PRESCOTT SMITH,
Baltimore, Md.:

Over 8,000 had left by 12 o'clock last night via Columbus. Twenty-five hundred more are now loading by the same route. Three thousand will start this evening for Parkersburg on boats, and reach there in from fifty to sixty hours. Probably about 1,500 more will start to-day by Columbus. Do not think I shall send any by the Marietta railroad.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

161.] LOUISVILLE, *January 23, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS:
(Care Colonel McKim, Cincinnati, Ohio.)

Captain Edwards here. The last of the boats are now passing through the canal.

FRANK. ERNST,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

162.] CINCINNATI, *January 23, 1865.*

Major MACFEELY,
Chief Commissary:

DEAR SIR: I regret to be obliged to advise you that there are about 1,000 men again delayed for a lack of rations at the Little Miami Railroad depot. Is it not possible to put an end to the recurrence of these detentions? Will you not give such orders as will prevent further delay? There are some eight or ten boats ordered up to Parkersburg with troops, and will leave as soon as they get their rations and fuel.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

163.] CINCINNATI, *January 23, 1865.*

CAPTAIN OF STEAMER:

SIR: In proceeding to Parkersburg in accordance with the orders of Captain Lewis, assistant quartermaster, you will move as rapidly as possible consistent with the utmost safety in regard to the troops on your boat. Should a change of the weather occur whereby it should become dangerous to proceed owing to ice, you will, unless otherwise ordered by the military officers in command, immediately return to this city. It is hoped and believed, however, by promptness you will be able to reach Parkersburg without difficulty. General Couch will proceed in command of all boats proceeding up the river, his headquarters being on board the Major Anderson.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

(The above order was sent to the following boats, viz: Marmora, Huntsman, Alex. Speer, Baltimore, Rose Hite, Nashville, Norman, Navigator, and Havana.)

—

164.] CINCINNATI, *January 23, 1865.*

SAMUEL C. GALE,
Agent Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Parkersburg:

Your dispatch and one from Captain Kelley (184) just received, in consequence of which I have ordered boats not to leave till further news from you to-morrow. Telegraph me as early in the morning as possible as to ice and navigation.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

165.] PARKERSBURG, *January 24, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Cincinnati, Ohio:

Weather very cold. River rising. A great deal of ice passing. Steamer Telegraph arrived this p. m. with colored troops from Catlettsburg.

S. C. GALE.

166.] PARKERSBURG, *January 23, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Cincinnati, Ohio:

Ice running heavy; quite a snow-storm; no boats running to-day.

B. F. KELLEY, JR.

—

167.] CINCINNATI, *January 24, 1865—12 m.*

D. W. CALDWELL,
Superintendent, Zanesville, Ohio:

Are all trains proceeding safely without accident, and to your satisfaction? Please answer definitely.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Trnnsportation.

—

168.] ZANESVILLE, *January 24, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Columbus, Ohio:

The movement thus far has been very satisfactory. Trains are being run slowly and carefully, but with entire freedom from accident.

D. W. CALDWELL.

—

169.] CINCINNATI, *January 23, 1865.*

Col. W. W. MCKIM,
Cincinnati, Ohio:

DEAR COLONEL: Captain Lewis has just shown me your note to him. Owing to the arrival of a large number of boats during the night, and constant arrival this morning, together with the presence of Generals Cooper, Couch, and Ruger, all pressing to get their troops forward as fast as possible, Captain Lewis and myself have been incessantly occupied in arranging the troops—a portion to go by water and a portion by rail—giving orders for their fuel, rations, &c., so that it has been absolutely impossible for the captain to do anything else.

Feeling assured that if everything was going well you would not desire so many boats and men should be delayed to make a formal report, we have simply confined ourselves to pushing forward the troops. Be assured there has been no intentional lack of compliance with your wishes in giving you a prompt report, on the part of Captain Lewis, and it is only from the circumstances above mentioned that it has been done. As soon as the present pressing requisitions are complied with, the captain will send you up a statement of everything that has been done. Under such circumstances may I not ask that you will temporarily waive his reporting to you in person.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

P. S.—As soon as report can be made up I will bring it up myself.

170.] CINCINNATI, *January 22, 1865.*

Capt. J. V. LEWIS,
Assistant Quartermaster, Cincinnati, Ohio:

Colonel McKim having expressed a desire that you should take supervision of the movement of the Twenty-third Army Corps from this place, and also a desire that proper authority should be given, you are hereby instructed to take general supervision, and see that the troops are properly and safely shipped on cars of the Hamilton and Dayton or Little Miami Railroad, via Columbus, and the Central Ohio to Bellaire. You will use great care in seeing that the proper orders for transportation are given, and that the Government receipts for no more transportation than is received. As soon as the entire transportation is completed you will please make a report to me at Washington of the number of troops and time moved, and everything of interest pertaining to the expedition.

By order of Quartermaster-General:

Very respectfully,

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

171.] CINCINNATI, *January 23, 1865—6 p. m.*

W. PRESCOTT SMITH,
Baltimore, Md.:

Following dispatch received from Captain Kelley at 2 o'clock: "Ice running heavy; quite a snow-storm; no boats running to-day." In consequence of which I have ordered boats not to start till further news from Parkersburg. Shall get off 4,000 to-day by rail, and probably send as many more to-morrow. Coming at this rate I presume you can move them without trouble.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

172.] CINCINNATI, *January 23, 1865—6 p. m.*

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

Four thousand men gone by rail to-day, making over 12,000. The following dispatch received from Captain Kelley, assistant quartermaster at Parkersburg, to-day: "Ice running heavy; quite a snow-storm; no boats running to-day." In consequence of which I have ordered boats not to leave till further orders. I shall keep shipping by rail to-morrow. Trains all moving well through Ohio.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

173.] CINCINNATI, *January 23, 1865—7 p. m.*

J. B. FORD,
Agent Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Wheeling, Va.:

The ice is so bad I think we shall keep shipping to-morrow and next day by Wheeling. How many trains have arrived? Telegraph me every twelve hours how matters progress.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

174.] WHEELING, *January 23, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Chief of Rail and River Transportation, Cincinnati, Ohio:

We have dispatched seven trains to destination, all that had arrived at Bellaire to 9 p. m. Power and cars in waiting to take troops, &c., as fast as they arrive. Twenty-six hundred men have gone forward.

J. B. FORD.

—

175.] LITTLE MIAMI AND COLUMBUS AND XENIA R. R. CO.,
SUPERINTENDENT'S DEPARTMENT,
Cincinnati, January 24, 1865.

Colonel PARSONS:

DEAR SIR: The Central Ohio road is probably short of power. Had you not best telegraph to Lough, or quartermaster at Columbus, authority to take if necessary two engines of the Piqua railroad and two of the Cleveland, Columbus, and Cincinnati Railroad. Trains are going very slowly east for safety. We cleared out the yesterday's lot at 2 a. m. this morning. My impression is that we can take the troops to Columbus as fast as they can be taken away from there.

E. W. WOODWARD.

—

176.] CINCINNATI, *January 24, 1865—10 a. m.*

THOMAS LOUGH,
Superintendent, Columbus, Ohio:

Please advise me why it is trains are moving so slowly over the Central Ohio. Report from Wheeling shows the arrival of a much less number of troops than I had expected, and that the Baltimore and Ohio was waiting. Are you short of engines? If so, the quartermaster at Columbus will give you authority to make requisition or take possession of as many as are necessary. We send 4,000 more to day, and the same to-morrow, making about 20,000 in all. Pray act promptly, and advise me fully. Cannot the Piqua furnish you engines if required?

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

176¼.] OFFICE DEPOT COMMISSARY OF SUBSISTENCE,
[*January 23, 1865.*]

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Chief of Rail and River Transportation,
Burnet House, Cincinnati, Ohio:

COLONEL: I am in receipt of your communication of this date* informing me that there are about 1,000 men again delayed for lack of rations at the Little Miami Railroad depot. In reply I have to inform you that I found but one regiment, about 400 men, at the Little Miami depot; that rations had been drawn for this regiment by the division commissary of subsistence this forenoon. I have kept an agent at the

* See No. 162, p. 257.

depot since yesterday to ascertain what rations are required, immediately on the arrival of each detachment, and to have them supplied without a moment's delay. I have plenty of cooked rations, and can supply the troops as rapidly as I can ascertain what they require. I assure you that the delay cannot be attributed to any failure or neglect of the subsistence department of this place.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. MACFEELY,
Major and Commissary of Subsistence, U. S. Army.

—

176½.] WHEELING, *January 25, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Zanesville, Ohio:

Just received the following from our agent at Benwood:

We have been ready two hours to start train No. 20. Now 5.40 p. m., but the men won't let us do it because White, the officer in charge, is across the river at Bellaire. They are nearly all drunk, and threaten to shoot us. We are providing the cars with straw; very many of them have stoves. No troops laying over for want of transportation. We will get provost-marshal-general to remedy the difficulty if possible at Benwood.

Troops are coming through promptly and abundance of coffee is supplied at Benwood and on the line, and in case there should be a temporary delay at Bellaire the officers should be requested to have the men leave the cars, so they can be returned to Cincinnati. We answered your message last night.

J. B. FORD.

—

177.] CINCINNATI, *January 24, 1865.*

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

I shall get off 16,000 by midnight. There will be about 3,000 or 4,000 who will go to-morrow. I shall be at Columbus to-morrow, Wheeling next day.

LEWIS B. PARSONS.

—

177½.] CINCINNATI, *January 24, 1865—3 p. m.*

W. P. SMITH,
Baltimore, Md.:

It is so cold I fear there will be suffering going over the mountains unless there is great care in the preparation of stoves, &c. I go to Columbus to-night, remain one day, and then to Wheeling. Everything works well so far as I can learn.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

178.] CINCINNATI, *January 24, 1865.*

General ROBERT ALLEN,
Louisville, Ky.:

At least 16,000 will have left by dark to-night. Balance go to-morrow. I go to Columbus and Wheeling, to remain one or two days. All

go by rail, and everything works admirably. Please request provost-marshal to send stragglers to report to Captain Lewis as soon as possible.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

178½.] XENIA, *January 24, 1865.*

J. B. FORD,
Agent Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Wheeling, Va.:

It is so severely cold I fear troops may suffer in going over the mountains. I hope you will provide stoves, straw, and coffee, and make them as comfortable as possible. I am on my way to Columbus. Telegraph me there to-night how many trains have gone east and how many are waiting to go.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

179.] COLUMBUS, *January 24, 1865—10 p. m.*

W. PRESCOTT SMITH,
Baltimore, Md.:

I find trains are arriving so fast at Bellaire that I have ordered the trains of to-morrow not to leave Cincinnati till evening.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

179½] COLUMBUS, *January 25, 1865.*

J. B. FORD,
Agent Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Wheeling, Va.:

Major-General Couch, commanding the Twenty-third Army Corps, has issued the following order, which please promptly furnish by copy to the commanding officer of every train, and send to such other places as you think proper.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

180.]
ORDER.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Columbus, Ohio, January 25, 1865.

All commanding officers of trains will have company officers in the trains with their men. All commanding officers of trains will have established guards at stopping places, and see that no depredations are committed by the troops, and that all liquor shops are closed. Railroad officers are expected to report to me the regiment guilty of depredation.

D. N. COUCH,
Major-General.

180½.] COLUMBUS, *January 25, 1865.*

J. B. FORD,
Agent Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Wheeling, Va.:

I telegraphed you last night; no reply. Please let me hear as soon as possible how many cars have started over your road, and how they progress. Also how many are waiting at Bellaire. Major-General Couch, commanding, is here, and anxious to know before he goes on. Do you put large quantities of straw, or hay, in every car? This is very important. You can't put in too much. How about coffee?

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

181.] COLUMBUS, *January 24, 1865—10 p. m.*

E. W. WOODWARD,
Superintendent, Cincinnati, Ohio:

Please direct that no troops leave Cincinnati before to-morrow evening. They are accumulating too rapidly at Bellaire. It is better that they remain on the boats a few hours, than at that place. Advise Captain Lewis of this. All goes well here.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

181½.] ZANESVILLE, OHIO, *January 24, 1865—11 p. m.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Columbus, Ohio:

We found it necessary to unload a large amount of freight at Columbus and other points to give you the use of the cars. I regret to say the soldiers are disposing of a considerable amount of it. Can't you protect us?

H. J. JEWETT.

—

181¾.] COLUMBUS, *January 25, 1865.*

H. J. JEWETT,
Zanesville, Ohio:

A guard has been detailed to protect property here. General Hooker has given stringent orders. I have requested him to give like orders at Bellaire, and to close all liquor shops on the line. Is all going well at Bellaire?

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

182.] COLUMBUS, *January 25, 1865—12 p. m.*

H. J. JEWETT,
Zanesville, Ohio:

Major-General Couch, commanding the Twenty-third Army Corps, has issued the following order*, which please furnish by copy to the

* See No. 180, p. 262.

commanding officer of every passing train, and also send it to such places as you think best. I will send a copy to Bellaire. The general will go up this afternoon.

By order of Major-General Couch:

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

182½.] COLUMBUS, *January 25, 1865.*

H. J. JEWETT,
Zanesville:

Your dispatch received. Mr. Lough is doing all that can be done here. Are there other points where damage is being done?

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

183.] CINCINNATI, *January 23, 1865—6.15 p. m.*

THOMAS M. LOWE,
Maysville, Ky.:

The Major Anderson left here in pursuit of the steamer Rose Hite. Please hail her and say that the Rose Hite is here.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

183½.] CINCINNATI, *January 24, 1865—10 a. m.*

W. PRESCOTT SMITH,
Baltimore:

Your two dispatches of 1 and 8 p. m. yesterday just received. I sent you two dispatches yesterday. Weather entirely forbidding sending troops up by boat. Have sent to this hour 12,000 by Columbus. Have about 8,000 here. Shall only send, say, 4,000 to-day in order not to cumber you too much at Wheeling. Balance to-morrow. As we have coffee and everything arranged and running well by Columbus, it does not seem best to send any to Parkersburg by rail. I hope this will not disappoint you. Lough has been instructed and informs me he does constantly advise Wheeling of the movement of every train passing Columbus. I hear no complaint from Mr. Ford of any lack of information. Considering weather and everything, we are getting along wonderfully well.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

184.] CINCINNATI, *January 24, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

E. W. WOODWARD,
Superintendent, Cincinnati, Ohio:

Please instruct one of your agents to telegraph Wheeling of the departure of every train with the number of cars with men and horses.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

184½.] CINCINNATI, *January 24, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

SAMUEL C. GALE,
Parkersburg:

The ice and weather are so bad I have ordered troops to disembark and proceed to Bellaire by rail. No troops will be sent to Parkersburg except one or two boats that left some days since, and where they are I cannot learn. They contain about 600 troops. If they have not arrived you need not keep cars waiting for them, provided they are wanting cars at Wheeling.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

185.] CINCINNATI, *January 24, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

J. B. FORD,
Wheeling:

Ice and weather so bad have ordered troops to disembark and all proceed by rail via Columbus. About 12,000 have left to this hour, 4,000 more to-day, and the balance, 3,000 to 4,000, to-morrow. Do you get full information from Columbus of passing of all trains at that point? I hope an abundance of coffee is provided on arrival of troops. How are you getting on?

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

185½.] ZANESVILLE, *January 25, 1865.*

THOMAS LOUGH,
Columbus, Ohio:

Do you think it policy to allow trains to be detained so long on the road? Would it not be better to detain them at Columbus until you can send them directly through? Why not take engines from other roads, as I have requested you should do, while you are so short? It seems to me it would be better to entirely stop all returning trains, the engines only coming back. I think this is absolutely necessary. Things go very slowly now.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

186.] COLUMBUS, OHIO, *January 25, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Zanesville, Ohio:

The detentions to trains at Union to-day has not been for want of power, but on account of the number collected at that station and meeting the trains eastward [westward?] bound. It would certainly be easier for us to have had the trains a little slower, but as it was desired we should push them along, we have made our best efforts to secure safety by running slow and be diligent. We would have called on other companies for power, but the bad weather has broken up their engines and every road centering here is very short, and, as you determined last

night, I have thought we could fill the bill at Wheeling without calling upon our neighbors, but if you say drive them along I will make the requisition. Answer me after you see Caldwell and Jewett at Zanesville. I will telegraph you the time of departure from Cincinnati and Columbus and arrival of the rest of the trains at Bellaire.

THOS. LOUGH.

—

186½.] BALTIMORE, *January 23, 1865—8 p. m.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Cincinnati:

Yours of 11.30 received 7.40 p. m. First 3,000 left Benwood for Washington from 5 to 10 this m. with officers by passenger train, and all baggage and effects very promptly. We have cars there for 4,000 men and other cars in good reach for 6,000 additional.

W. PRESCOTT SMITH,
Master of Transportation.

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187.] ZANESVILLE, *January 26, 1865—12.15 a. m.*

THOMAS LOUGH,
Columbus:

I have received your dispatch. I think it obviously best to stop all westbound trains, except the regular passenger trains, until all the troops have passed, and Mr. Caldwell will so stop them by my request. You have more cars than are necessary to move all the troops, and I do not think it right to have trains detained all along the line for so many hours. If you require the engines they can go back by several going together. Ford says there are no troops waiting at Bellaire. Tell Woodward to start all troops, animals, and artillery as soon as possible. Of course I only desire them to go as fast as is consistent with perfect safety, but I do not see how eight or ten hours' detention by trains going west adds to safety. Please advise me of all trains leaving Cincinnati and Columbus. You will also require that all trains bound east shall have preference over all trains over the Steubenville road.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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187½.] COLUMBUS, *January 26, 1865.*

Colonel PARSONS,
Zanesville:

Your dispatch 12.15 a. m. was received. I had deferred answering till I should know what the morning would bring forth. I can imagine your anxiety to know that a slow ride to Zanesville on a passenger train would make you feel that everything else was moving in the same way. But the fact is the delay to passenger trains is intended, as we are giving the soldiers' trains the preference. The state of the case this morning is as follows:

No. 17 has unloaded at Bellaire and transferred. Nos. 18, 19, and 20 were within eighteen miles of Bellaire at 9 a. m. Mr. Caldwell can tell you where 21, 22, 23, and 24 are. No. 25 engine failed at Union,

but would be pushed into Newark by passenger train, by which time the repairs would be made, as the stem of the plunger to the pump only had to be strengthened. Nos. 27 and 28 are ready to leave here and we have four engines here which are being made ready and crew rested. I see no difficulty in keeping up to the Baltimore and Ohio facilities, and, compared with the movement of trains on the other road east of Columbus, the percentage is much in our favor. When we consider the number of trains and all irregular, as to accidents we have escaped beyond my anticipations and with present extraordinary care.

THOMAS LOUGH.

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188.] ZANESVILLE, *January 26, 1865.*

THOMAS LOUGH,
Columbus, Ohio:

Your dispatch received. I do not mean to find fault; on the contrary I am most gratified we have got along so well, and without accident; but I can but think it would have been still better if all west-bound trains had been stopped yesterday morning, and only engines gone west, and in this I think Mr. Jewett concurs. However, let this pass, and if we can only get all along safely and without delay, and the soldiers have coffee and plenty of straw, we will all agree that the job has been well done. The Baltimore and Ohio have been waiting since last evening at 7 o'clock. Let me hear when the last train has left Cincinnati and Columbus.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

188½.] BELLAIRE, *January 26, 1865.*

Colonel PARSONS,
Zanesville:

Have just got in. Some men will have to lie over to-night. I think this will be the place for you.

D. N. COUCH,
Major-General.

—

189.] ZANESVILLE, *January 26, 1865—12 m.*

Mr. CRONAN,
Agent Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Bellaire:

There will be seven trains in very soon, and nearly at the same time. I hope the commissary will have a great abundance of coffee, as the soldiers have been long out. Please push the trains off as fast as possible with safety. Major-General Couch will remain with you for a day or more.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

190.] ZANESVILLE, *January 26, 1865—12.30 a. m.*

J. B. FORD,
Agent Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Bellaire:

Please take the names of all officers behaving improperly, and say that Major-General Couch is on the train east and will soon be in Bellaire and investigate the difficulties.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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191.] ZANESVILLE, *January 26, 1865—2 p. m.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Zanesville:

Track clear and all trains moving. Two trains from the west due here in two hours. I have ordered coffee for their men.

D. W. CALDWELL.

—

192.] WHEELING, *January 26, 1865—10 p. m.*

Colonel PARSONS,
Zanesville, Ohio:

Our company have ordered that all other business be postponed, which has been done, for the speedy movement of your men. I will do myself the honor to call on you in the a. m., and have a comfortable car provided for your passage east. Our trains arrive this p. m., bringing us additional means for your army transportation. With plenty of hay in the cars and good warm coffee on the road, we trust your noble men may suffer but little from the very inclement weather. Have just received the following from our master of transportation, which will doubtless interest you:

[J. B. FORD.]

[Inclosure.]

BALTIMORE, *January 26, 1865.*

J. B. FORD:

Advise General Couch and Colonel Parsons that up to present writing there has arrived in Washington, not including General Schofield and party, in all 121 cars, troops, baggage, &c., and another train reported on Washington Branch expected to make in shortly. Other trains working satisfactorily, as well as could have been anticipated, considering severe weather. Advise them further that empty cars of leaving trains have been turned back, and doubtless have reached or passed Cumberland, west bound.

W. P. SMITH.

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193.] WHEELING, *January 26, 1865.*

Colonel PARSONS,
Zanesville:

Our troop trains have all passed to destination without the slightest interruption or delay, except one train, which was detained a short

time by the breaking of tender axle, without damage to cars or men. We are working most effectually and have plenty of cars and power for the remainder of your corps.

J. B. FORD.

—

194.] ZANESVILLE, *January 26, 1865—9 p. m.*

C. A. DANA,

Assistant Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

All goes well in Ohio and also east, so far as I can hear. Nearly everything will be at Bellaire in the morning. I go on to-night.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,

Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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195.] BELLAIRE, *January 27, 1865—9 a. m.*

Mr. CALDWELL,

Superintendent, Zanesville, Ohio:

Nearly everything has gone east from here. All you can send will be taken at once on its arrival. Send me as soon as possible the position of all trains en route from Cincinnati, with number of cars and troops and animals, and advise me when they all leave Cincinnati.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,

Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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196.] ZANESVILLE, *January 27, 1865—8.20 p. m.*

LEWIS B. PARSONS,

Bellaire, Ohio:

Numbers 27, 28, and 29 are moving. Numbers 30, 31, 32, and 33 are detained west of Newark by No. 30 being off track. I expect every minute to hear they are all right. There is no one injured.

D. W. CALDWELL.

—

197.] BENWOOD, *January 27, 1865—7 a. m.*

Mr. CALDWELL,

Superintendent, Zanesville, Ohio:

Can't you do something at once to prevent the delay of soldier trains on side tracks? It is very cold and I fear they must suffer.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,

Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

198.] ZANESVILLE, *January 27, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,

Bellaire:

There was some delay last night because of one train getting off the track and delaying them. No damage done and everything will be right soon. There are nine trains now on the road, and I understand from Mr. Lough he expects five more from Cincinnati by noon, which will close the movement. Excuse me for again calling your attention to the Newark soldiers. We have no interest in the movement, but business on the Steubenville and Indiana road has been virtually suspended during their movement on ours. Almost their entire car equip-

ment has been in the service, and if at all compatible with the public interest I would be glad to have you favor them and to have the opportunity of reciprocating to them by giving them the use of our power.

H. J. JEWETT.

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199.] BELLAIRE, *January 27, 1865—6 p. m.*

H. J. JEWETT,
President, Zanesville, Ohio:

No. 26 has not arrived. What is the cause of the delay? Is there any trouble anywhere now? Your dispatch as to delay last night is received. I would be very glad to oblige the Steubenville and Indiana and to comply with your wishes, but with the little actual knowledge I possess at this distance, would not think it judicious for me to interfere and give express preference over other roads possessing perhaps equal advantages. In this I am confident your judgment would concur. Please keep me fully advised as to the progress of all trains, whether the news be good or bad. It is very important I know all the facts and when to expect trains. Please answer immediately.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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200.] BELMONT, *January 27, 1865—7 a. m.*

Capt. J. B. FORD, and also
AGENT BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD AT
BELLAIRE AND BENWOOD:

I hope you are sending out no trains without stoves during this cold weather. See General Couch before doing so. You can get stoves from trains from the west if you have not enough.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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201.] BELLAIRE, *January 27, 1865—9.30 a. m.*

D. W. CALDWELL,
Zanesville, Ohio:

I just arrived. All trains but one have passed over the river. I think every car you can send will be very promptly taken over. Ask Lough if all have left Cincinnati.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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202.] BENWOOD, *January 27, 1865—11 a. m.*

W. PRESCOTT SMITH,
Baltimore, Md.:

Do you not think it imprudent to allow cars to go east without stoves in them? How are the cars arriving? In what condition, and what is their contents? I remain here for a day or two. Please keep me advised of progress.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

203.] BELLAIRE, *January 27, 1865—5 p. m.*

Captain FORD,
Wheeling:

There are 153 cars east of Columbus which should be here by morning. I fear you will be lacking in cars.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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204.] WHEELING, *January 27, 1865.*

Colonel PARSONS,
Bellaire:

Be so kind as to inform me the number of troops yet to arrive at Bellaire, and the number of cars of artillery and horses, and when we may expect the latter at Bridgeport, opposite Wheeling.

J. B. FORD.

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205.] BELLAIRE, *January 27, 1865.*

Capt. J. B. FORD,
Wheeling, Va.:

Train No. 27 will be in about midnight. Contains eleven cars of horses, nine of artillery and baggage, and seven of troops. I will send the entire train to Bridgeport early in the morning. I suppose it will require two trains on your road. Please have all in readiness early to load promptly. Some forage to be required of Captain Artsman. Pray do not forget an abundance of straw and hay for the troops. Answer. No. 33 will also go to Bridgeport to-morrow as it contains eleven cars of horses and artillery, and only three of troops.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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206.] WHEELING, *January 27, 1865—8 p. m.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Bellaire, Ohio:

We have ample cars for the artillery and horses that may arrive to-morrow. Will give special attention to making men comfortable.

J. B. FORD.

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207.] BELLAIRE, *January 28, 1865.*

Capt. J. H. MYERS,
Twenty-third Indiana Battery (Battery D, First Ohio),
Bellaire, Ohio:

Your horses having been so long on boat and cars as to require a change, you will be transshipped at Wheeling instead of Bellaire, where you will secure sufficient necessary rations for your men and horses, loading and being ready to move as soon thereafter as possible. You will report to Capt. Gus. Artsman, assistant quartermaster; also to Capt. J. B. Ford, agent Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, for transshipment. Report to Captain Artsman for what is necessary in way of forage and supplies.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

208.] ZANESVILLE, *January 28, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Bellaire:

Trains are all right now and have orders to move.

D. W. CALDWELL.

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209.] BELLAIRE, *January 28, 1865.*

Capt. J. B. FORD,
Wheeling, Va.:

The batteries won't be able to start before to-morrow, and perhaps not until Monday morning, owing to causes officers will explain. I hope they will be duly cared for, and go as soon as consistent. I shall want all the stoves, army and all others, to put in cars, as I cannot think it right to send off troops without them.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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210.] GRAFTON, *January 27, 1865—10 a. m.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Bellaire:

The trains are running very well. There is some complaining of the cold, and if the weather continues as it is I fear there will be more. I think it will be best, unless the weather moderates, to order the Sibley stoves from Wheeling.

D. N. COUCH,
Major-General.

(NOTE.—Ordered before received.)

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211.] WHEELING, *January 28, 1865.*

Major-General COUCH:

(On passenger train bound east from Wheeling.)

Yesterday noon your two dispatches received. I had already ordered stoves and fuel for all cars. There is a great delay on the Ohio Central. Only two trains arrived since you left. They are off the track again west of Zanesville. I shan't get away before Monday. Please answer.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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212.] CUMBERLAND, *January 28, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Wheeling:

No trains have passed here since 12 noon yesterday with troops. They were reported to be in good condition. Three more are expected before noon to-day. There are three at Piedmont. Weather continues very cold.

D. N. COUCH,
Major-General.

213.] WHEELING, *January 28, 1865—11.30 a. m.*

W. PRESCOTT SMITH,
Baltimore, Md.:

I feel anxious to know the progress east. Have telegraphed you there, with no reply. They are getting on very slowly on the Ohio Central.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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214.] ZANESVILLE, *January 27, 1865—1.20 p. m.*

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Bellaire:

No. 26 just leaving Belmont. No. 27 just leaving Spencer's. No. 28 now at Spencer's. No. 29 due at Concord soon. These are all the trains east of Newark. There is some delay west of Newark, the cause of which I will give you as soon as I get it. In the matter of the movement via Steubenville and Indiana road, I of course yield to your better judgment.

H. J. JEWETT.

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215.] BELLAIRE, *January 28, 1865.*

THOMAS LOUGH,
Columbus, Ohio:

In Heaven's name can't something be at once done to put an end to such extraordinary delay? It is most unfortunate, and the responsibility of the cause very great. What is the matter? Let me know the facts. Where are all the trains? Everything else must at once give way to move these troops. Please answer immediately.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

—

216.] COLUMBUS, *January 28, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Bellaire, Ohio:

The delay to the trains yesterday caused by breaking of driver on engine on one train, which set the tender and twelve cars off the rail; another broken rail set two cars off the rail on a bridge and broke the cross-ties in bridge for about thirty feet. This caused a delay of twelve hours, but the trains now moved from Columbus as fast as power could be returned here, and passenger trains suspended to do it. Last night another broken rail and one truck of car, broken-down car off the track, detained train from here, but all right again and train moving. No. 36 left here at 4 a. m., and we will have the two remaining trains, which make all of your command, to-day. Other troops are now arriving for New York, via Crestline and Steubenville. I need not assure you that everything that can be done is done to keep them going, but we cannot avoid the breaking of rails and engines. Pease says there will be about 4,000 stragglers to come along, and if they can get them together will send on one train.

T. LOUGH,

217.] BELLAIRE, *January 28, 1865—9 a. m.*

Capt. J. B. FORD,
Agent Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Wheeling:

I must again call the attention of your company to furnishing stoves in the cars moving troops. I am not willing to allow the movement of troops without further protection for this cold weather on the mountains. If you cannot get others Captain Artsman will let you have all he has. Answer as soon as possible by telegraph. How many stoves has Captain Artsman?

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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218.] WHEELING, *January 28, 1865—10 a. m.*

Capt. J. B. FORD,
Wheeling:

We have only full reports of seven more trains, being from 27 to 33, both inclusive. These contain forty-four cars of horses, artillery, and baggage, and eighty-seven cars of soldiers. There are five or six trains more at least behind them. No. 27 has gone to Bridgeport and will not be able to move before to-morrow evening. I have dispatch from General Couch sustaining what I have already telegraphed you in regard to stoves. I cannot consent that cars leave here without being provided therewith.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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219.] ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE, U. S. ARMY,
Wheeling, W. Va., January 28, 1865.

Capt. GUS. ARTSMAN,
Assistant Quartermaster:

You will please immediately deliver to Capt. J. B. Ford, agent for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, as many good Sibley tent stoves as he may require for warming cars transporting troops east, taking the receipt of said company therefor and reporting the same to me at Washington City at an early day.

By order Quartermaster-General:

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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220.] BELLAIRE, *January 28, 1865—1 p. m.*

D. W. CALDWELL,
Zanesville:

Will you please send me, to care of Mr. Morris, a full report of the transportation of the Twenty-third Army Corps, showing number of cars of troops, horses, &c., with time of leaving Newark and arrival at Bellaire. Also the reason for the several delays on which I can base my report to the Secretary of War. I shall not leave here before Monday.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

221.] BELLAIRE, *January 28, 1865—4 p. m.*

THOMAS LOUGH,
Superintendent, Columbus, Ohio:

Will you please send me to-morrow to this place, care of the Ohio Central, a full report of the transportation of the Twenty-third Corps, showing the number of cars of troops, horses, &c., with time of leaving Columbus and arrival at Newark; also the reason for the several delays, on which I can make report to the Secretary of War.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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222.] COLUMBUS, OHIO, *January 28, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Bellaire:

I will send you a full report.

THOS. LOUGH.

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223.] BELLAIRE, *January 28, 1865.*

E. W. WOODWARD,
Superintendent Little Miami Railroad, Cincinnati:

Will you please send me at once to Washington a full report of the transportation of the Twenty-third Corps, showing the number of cars of troops, &c., and the time of leaving Cincinnati and arrival at Columbus. I remain here until Monday. Answer here.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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224.] CINCINNATI, *January 28, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Bellaire:

Will forward at once to Washington the report you wish.

E. W. WOODWARD,
Superintendent.

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225.] BELLAIRE, *January 28, 1865—3.30 p. m.*

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

We have had great detentions and a hard time on the Ohio Central arising from broken rails, cars off the track, and the cold weather, but as yet no injury to a single person, so far as I can learn. There are still over 200 cars between here and Columbus, but the track is now reported all clear, and I hope all will be in very speedily. I am putting stoves and large quantities of straw or hay in every car and furnishing an abundance of hot coffee. We have had a very severe time for three days, and if we get through all safe I shall be most thankful. I can't get away from here before Monday.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

226.] BALTIMORE, *January 28, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Bellaire, Ohio:

We found it impossible to get the 550 stoves necessary for cars. We have enough for 300, but to close up the movement properly we are hurrying out to the west 100 more cars that have stoves, being the first hundred that left river for east. We have heard of no suffering, the cars being full of straw or hay and the men regaled at intervals with hot coffee plentifully. Movement going on very successfully, we think, and especially so considering weather and other difficulties.

W. P. SMITH.

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227.] WHEELING, *January 29, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS,
Bellaire:

We have the first battery, guns, &c., loaded. The captain informs me his horses, all of them, only arrived last night, and will not be fit to start until to-morrow, and we are ready in cars and power any moment. Will carry out your views with great pleasure. Before you leave make an order on me to push forward the batteries with all dispatch, and I will use it in discretion with the officers which may aid us. Do you leave this a. m.? If I had known it would have gone down to see you. How many cars of troops yet to come?

J. B. FORD.

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228.] BENWOOD, *January 29, 1865—12.25 p. m.*

J. B. FORD,
Agent, Wheeling:

Your dispatch received. It seems to me the first battery might and ought to get off at once. There will be three more artillery trains up to-day, and if they do not proceed promptly there will be delay and confusion. Captain Artsman will please examine into each case and direct that they proceed just as soon and as fast as he thinks they can properly do so, and you can load them. I shall not go till all are off. If there is unavoidable delay telegraph me and I will come up if you and Captain Artsman desire. I have requested Captain Goodrich, assistant quartermaster, to go up and to consult with you. We are getting on well here.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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229.] BELLAIRE, *January 29, 1865—10 a. m.*

THOMAS LOUGH,
Columbus, Ohio:

Your two dispatches of yesterday received. I am glad to know that our work is so near done. I hope Pease will send the stragglers along in a body (see 216) as soon as possible, showing the number coming. In your report please make similar full explanations in regard to the cause of detentions, so as to avoid misapprehension.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

230.] BENWOOD, *January 29, 1865—10.40 a. m.*

Capt. J. B. FORD,
Wheeling:

I have telegraphed Prescott Smith fully as to loading cars, and am sure you and he both will concur with me even as a matter of policy. If any package comes for me after I leave please send it to me at Washington, care of Quartermaster-General, and oblige,

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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231.] BENWOOD, *January 29, 1865—10.45 a. m.*

Capt. GUS. ARTSMAN,
Wheeling:

Four more trains of artillery go up to Bridgeport at once. Please see them well cared for and aid Captain Ford in loading them.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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232.] BENWOOD, *January 29, 1865—10.45 a. m.*

J. B. FORD,
Agent, Wheeling:

Two more trains of artillery are in and go to Bridgeport at once. Two more will be in soon and also go up. I would like one or two cars of infantry to go with each artillery train as a guard. How soon will the first train be ready to start? I would like to get all off to-morrow if consistent.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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233.] BALTIMORE, *January 28, 1865.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Benwood:

I telegraphed you an answer to your dispatch last night. You have my message now. Secretary of War, Halleck, Dana, and Schofield all greatly pleased with the movement, and think highly of your efforts. Mr. Garrett saw them yesterday and they were full of praise. Indeed they have good cause to feel well considering the condition before us and the difficulties overcome.

W. P. SMITH.

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234.] BENWOOD, *January 29, 1865—11.20 a. m.*

W. PRESCOTT SMITH,
Baltimore, Md.:

Your dispatch of yesterday received. It gives me great pleasure to know the difficulties of our movement are appreciated at Washington. You and I know full well what they are. I venture the assertion such long movement of so large a force in severe midwinter was never so

rapidly and successfully made as this has been so far, and if we can escape all accident I shall feel most thankful and relieved of an almost fearful responsibility. These brave fellows have had a hard time over the Ohio Central for two to three days, and all officers and men complain of being too close pressed for room, though Clement only put thirty to thirty-five in his large cars. I feel it but just and good policy to put twenty-six to twenty-eight in your small and thirty in your large cars. This much delights all and makes them pleased with your road and everybody. It only takes a few more cars, and I feel sure you will concur, at least I hope you won't disapprove my action. Nearly all will be in to-day, and I hope to clear out to-morrow.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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235.] BELLAIRE, *January 30, 1865.*

E. W. WOODWARD, Esq.,
Superintendent Little Miami Railroad, Cincinnati, Ohio:

DEAR SIR: I congratulate you on the completion of the transportation of the Twenty-third Army Corps so far as your road is concerned, and it gives me great pleasure to state that it has been done with a remarkable degree of success and satisfaction to the Government, considering the severity of the weather and the short notice I was able to give you. According to my experience, which has been, as you know, pretty extensive, everything considered there has been no large movement so successful. The completion of the transportation of 20,000 troops with all its artillery from the Tennessee to the Potomac, a distance of nearly 1,500 miles, over rivers and mountains in the midst of a severe winter, is no ordinary occurrence, and I venture the assertion that nothing equal to it has ever occurred either in Europe or America, and its success will certainly be a subject for pleasant future recollection. I am delighted to know that from Eastport to Washington, as far as heard from, there have been no accidents causing injury to life or limb of any person. I expect to leave here for Washington to-morrow, where I trust I shall find your full reports, in which I hope you will state all the circumstances, and the sudden change and condition of the weather, affecting the movement.

By order of Quartermaster-General:

I remain, sir, very truly, yours,

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

P. S.—In case there are any complaints or misapprehension, would it not be well for you to see your city papers and have corrections made and the facts understood. The stories about freezing of men are pure fiction. I have inquired fully and cannot learn a single case, though it would not have been strange if some drunken man had exposed himself and had his feet frozen. Don't let this movement get mixed up with that from Nashville. After all my intense anxieties and efforts I should be sorry to have unjust complaints made when I know the success has been wonderful, all things considered; but it would not be the first time I have been blamed when the contrary was justly due. The average time of movement from the upper Tennessee will not exceed ten days.

236.] BELLAIRE, *January 30, 1865.*

THOMAS LOUGH, Esq.,
Superintendent Central Ohio Railroad:

DEAR SIR: I am glad to learn the transportation of the Twenty-third Army Corps is completed, as far as your road is concerned, and that, while accident and delays have occurred, there has been, as far as I can learn, no injury to life or limb of any person, which is certainly a cause for sincere congratulation. While I have felt and may have expressed momentary annoyance at some of the delays arising, as you advise me, from unavoidable circumstances, as broken rails and the like, resulting from the intense cold weather, I beg to assure you that I fully appreciate the energy, earnest labor, and efforts you have made to cause the movement to be a perfect success. I should be extremely sorry to have any one suppose I would make the least unnecessary complaint. I think that perhaps you have erred a little in your unwillingness to incommode other roads by taking their machinery in accordance with my request and instructions; but as I may not be fully advised of the facts I should hesitate in deciding, without further knowledge and until I receive your report, that you had not acted best under the circumstances. The completion of the transportation of 20,000 men, with all their artillery, from the Tennessee to the Potomac, a distance of nearly 1,500 miles, over rivers and mountains, in the midst of a severe winter, is no ordinary occurrence, and I venture the assertion that nothing equal to it has ever occurred either in Europe or America, and its success will be a subject for future pleasant recollection.

Wishing you every success in your new position in the way of developing your road to the full extent of its metal, I am, very truly, yours,

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

P. S.—The average time of movement will not exceed ten days.

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237.] BELLAIRE, *January 30, 1865—11 a. m.*

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War, Washington:

Ten trains left yesterday. I think we shall get off everything to-day. We have had a very severe time over the Ohio Central, and in crossing the Ohio; been off the track on the Ohio Central several times by broken rails or axles, and had some very narrow escapes from great disaster. But so far, thank Heaven, there has been no injury or loss to life, limb, or property, and the troops are very cheerful and comfortable. Weather has been very severe, but is moderating a little to-day. Since my arrival here I have had stoves and straw put in every car.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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238.] BELLAIRE, *January 30, 1865—11.30 a. m.*

W. PRESCOTT SMITH,
Baltimore, Md.:

Thank God, nearly everything is here safe. Ten trains left yesterday; hope to get off the balance to-day. Your employés have worked

splendidly; we have been off the track on the Ohio Central several times by broken rails or axles, arising from severe cold weather, occasioning much delay, and had some narrow escapes from great disaster, but so far there has been no injury or loss of life, limb, or property. Stories about men being frozen to death are pure fiction. I have inquired carefully and cannot find a single case of even a frozen limb. Troops are cheerful and happy in being sent East in cars not overcrowded and having stoves.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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239.] BELLAIRE, *January 30, 1865.*

J. W. GARRETT, Esq.,
President,
W. PRESCOTT SMITH, Esq.,
Master of Transportation, Baltimore and Ohio Railroad:

GENTLEMEN: I am happy to inform you that the transfer of the Twenty-third Army Corps across the Ohio from Bellaire to your cars at Benwood is completed. In closing it, I should feel that I were lacking in justice not to especially acknowledge the services rendered by the employés of your road.

As you are aware, before our arrival here the weather suddenly changed and became and has continued intensely cold, by which, all railroad men know, the difficulties and dangers of such a movement become trebled and quadrupled. It is gratifying to know that, owing in a great extent to the untiring energy and perseverance of your employés, the work has been completed rapidly, and without injury or loss to person or property. The accomplishment of the work so successfully is mainly owing to the service of Mr. John Cronan, your agent here, and Mr. James R. Shroder, assistant supervisor of trains, who for eight days have been ever at their posts, and at times without sleep or rest for two and three days; also to the assistance of Mr. McMurphy, superintendent of transfer, who exerted himself with like energy until he became ill; as also to the aid given by Mr. Harvey, temporarily assisting Mr. Cronan, and to Captain Snyder, in charge of the transfer-boat W. H. Harrison, to the watchful care of whom, by night and day, is owing the fact that we have been able to cross at all through the ice. The value of these men, I doubt not, is well known to you, yet I cannot but think for their services in this case they are worthy of special commendation, and that with such employés your road will continue to maintain its unsurpassed reputation for safety and good management.

I am, very respectfully,

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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240.] BELLAIRE, *January 30, 1865.*

Colonel MCKIM,
Chief Quartermaster, and
Capt. J. V. LEWIS,
Assistant Quartermaster, Cincinnati, Ohio:

GENTLEMEN: I am glad to inform you that all the Twenty-third Army Corps have arrived here, been transferred, and that a large pro-

portion of them have already arrived at their destination. I have not seen a Cincinnati paper for some days, but a gentleman casually informed me that there had been some complaint in reference to neglect on the part of the commissary department, though we thought the complaint only applied to the small force under General Meagher proceeding east by Pittsburg. That there may be no misapprehension, would it not be well for one of you to see the editors of your papers in regard to the movement of the Twenty-third Army Corps, letting it be known that the small force moving from Nashville have no connection with it, and was moving without your own or my authority or instructions. As you are aware, the movement of the Twenty-third Army Corps was very hastily decided upon, and that until my arrival at the mouth of the Tennessee I had no express instructions in regard to the same, further than to report and await orders; and that after receiving such orders the whole force within three days was embarked at Clifton, and the most of it proceeding up the Ohio. The transportation until we arrived at Cincinnati was every way satisfactory, the weather being comparatively mild and pleasant. At Cincinnati I heard of no complaint, unless it was owing to a few hours delay in proceeding for lack of rations, and of which in moving so large a force it would be hardly just to complain of the commissary. The cars were all amply provided with straw, and many of them with stoves, though the latter were not deemed necessary for the short trip to Bellaire, in weather no colder than it was when most of them left Cincinnati. Unfortunately, trains being thrown off the track several times on the Ohio Central, there have been very considerable detentions in getting them through to this point. At Columbus and this place a most ample supply of coffee was furnished to all the regiments immediately on arrival, as also at four different points on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and I never saw a body of men more satisfied or merry than were these troops on reaching this point. On arriving here I immediately took steps to secure an ample supply of stoves and straw to make the troops comfortable in passing over the mountains. Most of the corps have already arrived at Washington, and I am in receipt of dispatch informing me that the Secretary of War, Generals Halleck, Schofield, and Couch express themselves in the highest degree satisfied and pleased with the rapidity and great success of the movement in all respects.

There have been some reports of injury to persons by freezing and otherwise, but after the most careful inquiry in every direction I have not been able to ascertain that a single man has suffered in life or limb in any respect, and I believe such statements are pure fiction. When it is considered that this movement was so suddenly decided and so promptly acted upon, and that 20,000 men will have been transported nearly 1,500 miles by river and rail, amid the constant changes and severities of midwinter, I know there is no one of the gentlemen controlling your papers who will not regard it in its true light, as one of the remarkable events of this most remarkable war; the like of which, everything considered, has not been before accomplished. The movement of the Twenty-second [Eleventh and Twelfth] Army Corps of 22,000 men from the East to the West was effected in delightful autumn weather, and with ample time for previous preparation, and the route distinctly fixed upon. One thing is certain, so far as I am concerned, that no consideration will again induce me voluntarily to assume the general supervision and fearful responsibility of such a movement in such a period of the year, and I am sure that no man would care to endure the painful anxieties and difficulties through which I have passed for the last

fifteen days. The average time of movement with all the change and difficulties encountered will not exceed ten days from the time troops leave the upper Tennessee to their arrival at their destination. To yourselves I beg leave again to express my obligations for the great promptness, energy, and efficiency of your services in so rapidly providing the necessary cars and in making the transfer at Cincinnati. Please let me hear from you at Washington, and advise me if anything is said anyway relative to the movement or injury to troops.

I am, very truly, yours,

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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241.] BELLAIRE, *January 30, 1865.*

Hon. H. J. JEWETT, *President*, and
D. W. CALDWELL, *Superintendent:*

GENTLEMEN: I know you will rejoice with me in the completion of the transportation of the Twenty-third Army Corps so far as your road is concerned. Owing to the sudden change and severity of this mid-winter weather it has only been accomplished with untiring and persevering efforts, and while some accidents and detentions have occurred, I am highly pleased to know that there has been no injury to life or limb of any person; and while I may have expressed some annoyance at these detentions, I beg to assure you that I fully appreciate the energy and efforts displayed by yourselves in making the movement a complete success. Indeed, I think no similar movement of the war, considering the distance moved, the short notice given, and the severity of the season, has been so successful, notwithstanding all the delays and accidents to which I have alluded. Under such circumstances I should be very sorry to make complaint, at least until I received your report, and had more full and definite information. The transportation of 20,000 men with all their artillery from the upper Tennessee to the Potomac, a distance of nearly 1,500 miles, over rivers and mountains in the midst of a severe winter is no ordinary occurrence, and I venture the assertion that nothing equal to it has ever occurred, either in Europe or America. Its success will be a subject for future pleasant recollection.

I remain, very truly, yours,

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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242.] BENWOOD, VA., *January 30, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. J. R. BRUNER,
Commanding 130th Indiana:

COLONEL: Major-General Couch directed that an infantry escort should accompany and protect the artillery of the Twenty-third Army Corps. I have therefore to request that you will, with the 420 under your orders, take charge of the three battery trains now ready to leave for Washington City, and safely escort them in such manner as you shall deem best.

Very respectfully,

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

243.] BENWOOD, *January 30, 1865.*

Capt. GUS. ARTSMAN,
Assistant Quartermaster, Wheeling, Va.:

Please see the editor of the Wheeling Register and inform him some one has given him false information and led him to state in paper this morning that nine soldiers were frozen to death in the cars on the Ohio Central. It is entirely untrue. I have made and caused to be made the most careful inquiry for days past, and assure him not a man has been frozen, nor even a limb. Indeed, with the close cars so full of straw and stoves such a thing was impossible unless a man was intoxicated and exposed outside. I am sure the editor will correct the error, as it is calculated to prejudice our cause. Please consult with Captain Ford, and answer. Some twelve or fifteen cars more of horses arrived; two of artillery will be up to-day. Please prepare to ship them as soon as possible.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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244.] BELLAIRE, *January 29, 1865.*

Capt. J. B. FORD,
Wheeling, Va.:

The soldiers and officers all say they have been too much crowded in coming from Cincinnati, and Mr. Clement only put thirty-five in their large cars. Bear in mind the services of these brave men, the severity of this weather, the fact that most of your cars are smaller than those in Ohio, and thus one or two more cars to a train make all satisfied and pleased with your road; and I am sure you will yield to my wishes, and I will agree to stand between you and all blame, as I cannot, while seeing the facts, think it right or policy to put over twenty-six or twenty-eight in your small cars and thirty in the large ones. Again, the transportation is almost complete, and only a few extra cars will be required.

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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245.] WHEELING, *January 29, 1865—9 p. m.*

Colonel PARSONS,
Benwood:

We have just succeeded in getting the forage, and everything will leave immediately.

J. B. FORD.

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246.] WHEELING, *January 30, 1865—12.25 p. m.*

Colonel PARSONS,
Benwood:

Please stop the cars which are loaded with guns of Fifteenth Indiana Battery, Nos. 278, 238, 2256, 2283, 2342, and 2871; the horses will be loaded as soon as the Third Division battery get out of the way.

ALONZO D. HARVEY,
Captain and Chief of Artillery, Second Division.

247.] ZANESVILLE, OHIO, *January 30, 1865—6.30 p. m.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS, *Bellaire:*

The last train is about leaving Barnesville. We will send it forward as fast as possible. I am glad the thing is about over. Good-bye.

D. W. CALDWELL.

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248.]

ORDERS.] ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE, U. S. A.,
Wheeling, W. Va., January 30, 1865—6.30 p. m.

To officers in charge of troops or animals belonging to the Twenty-third Army Corps now at Bridgeport or Wheeling.

All animals must be unloaded to-night and placed in the corral, where they must be fed, watered, and ready to load on the cars by 7 o'clock in the morning. All troops will be provided with four days' rations before leaving Columbus or Benwood. All troops and horses will be in the cars and leave here for Benwood by 9 o'clock to-morrow morning. At Benwood the trains will be made up and accompanied by infantry escort, now in readiness on cars at that place.

By order Major-General Couch:

LEWIS B. PARSONS,
Colonel and Chief of Rail and River Transportation.

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249.] BALTIMORE, MD., *January 30, 1865—9 p. m.*

Col. LEWIS B. PARSONS, *Bellaire, Ohio:*

Yours of 11.30 a. m., from Bellaire, received 9 p. m. Glad to hear favorably from you. Two-thirds of the entire movement now in Washington, and remainder moving successfully over line. Many of our train men and others have been frost-bitten, and several killed by accident and exhaustion, but no soldier frozen, and only one killed by breakage of a United States car, thirty miles from Baltimore, that threw three cars off the track. We have had great trouble in many ways with the Government cars. They are not adapted to our curves and grades. Weather is rapidly moderating here, and we all feel relieved as our heavy and responsible contract draws nigh its triumphant fulfillment. I want to shake hands with you over it when you return.

W. P. SMITH.

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250.] WHEELING, *January 31, 1865.*

Col. L. B. PARSONS, *Grafton:*

We dispatched the last of the troops and horses from Benwood at 1.35 p. m., all in good order.

J. R. SHRODER.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 3, 1865—2 p. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

I think it advisable to request the Navy to keep two or three vessels patrolling between Cape Henry and Cape Fear during the transit of

Schofield's troops. It is barely possible for one of the enemy's privateers to get on that route and do us great injury. If you agree with me will you please request this?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 3, 1865.*

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The Richmond Whig to-day has the following dispatch:

CHARLESTON, *February 1.*

There has been no movement of importance to-day. Prisoners taken vary in their statements of Sherman's destination. The enemy, it is reported, are burning all the good houses along the route of their march.

The latest accounts from Wilmington represent all quiet there. It is generally believed that Mobile is soon to be attacked.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, February 3, 1865—5 p. m.

General HOWARD:

Your note and orders of last night were not received till a few moments ago. General Logan got here last night, and to-day drove the enemy from a position the other side of Duck Creek. General Williams brought up five brigades of Slocum's troops, but no late news of Slocum. Thinks he will have a hard time to get across Savannah River at all. I ordered Woods' division this morning to Angley's Post-Office, and John E. Smith is between. To-morrow the Fifteenth Corps will move on Buford's Bridge, which is also strongly defended, and I will order Williams toward Barnwell to the point marked Hayes. I will myself stop at Angley's Post-Office till I hear what progress is made to effect a lodgment across the Salkehatchie. General Woods is now at Angley's, and will lead to Buford's to-morrow. If Slocum were up I would move him to Barnwell at once, but can use Williams to produce the same effect.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Rivers' Bridge, February 3, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Your dispatch just received. I was just on the point of starting one of my officers to you. Your disposition of the Fifteenth Corps is just as I desired it. Prisoners report that Stephen D. Lee's corps was with the forces over against us to-day, but it lacks confirmation.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 3, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN, *Comdg. Mil. Div. of the Mississippi:*

GENERAL: Major-General Mower, under General Blair's direction, after most extraordinary exertion, opening two parallel roads, laying foot bridges a mile and a half in extent, crossing sixteen streams, succeeded in turning the position of the enemy with two brigades, while he made a strong demonstration on their direct front. He carried the position, taking a few prisoners. Meanwhile General Giles A. Smith crossed the swamp and the Salkehatchie two miles south of this point, creating a diversion and preventing the forces at Broxton's Bridge from coming up.

I visited the field this evening immediately after Mower had carried the works. It is the strongest position I ever saw in my life, and I think was defended by about 2,000 men. Some eight regimental flags, accompanying troops in motion below Giles Smith, moving down the river, where seen by our men just before dark. I took them to be re-enforcements cut off by General Smith's movement. Buford's Bridge is reported destroyed, and was abandoned about the time Rivers' Bridge was carried, so that the movement of to-day has given us the line of the Salkehatchie, and as the people of Barnwell District have taken all their provisions over this river we probably shall not suffer. General Blair has found sufficient forage thus far. I have concluded to send back my empty wagons under a small escort, and have them return to us following General Logan's column. It is a great pity the Left Wing is not so posted as to enable us to push at once for the railroad. It is twenty-two miles from here to Midway. I will spend the time till you say go ahead in preparing the bridges at this point and at Buford's Crossing. General Mower's loss, the doctor says, is 10 or 12 killed and at least 70 wounded. I shall send back all the wounded I can with the returned trains.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, February 3, 1865.

General LOGAN, *Commanding Fifteenth Corps:*

GENERAL: Move your command to-morrow, two divisions to Buford's Bridge and one to Angley's Post-Office. Better pursue the same order as now and let all march, say, at 6 a. m. That will bring the divisions of Woods and John E. Smith at Buford's, and Hazen's at Angley's. I will move Williams by our left rear around to Arnold Church and Hayes'.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Loper's Cross-Roads, S. C., February 3, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inform you, for the information of the general commanding, that the three divisions of this corps are

encamped as follows: The Second Division, with headquarters of the corps, at Loper's Cross-Roads; the Third Division at Owens' Cross-Roads; the First Division at or near Angley's Post-Office, covering the bridge over Jackson's Branch, which General Woods is instructed to rebuild. The divisions, it will be seen, are all encamped in position along the road running from Duck Branch Post-Office to Angley's Post-Office, between Coosawhatchie Swamp and Jackson's Branch.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 3, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that General Blair's empty wagons will leave here at daylight to-morrow morning for Pocotaligo Landing, to load with subsistence stores. He has directed General Woods to send all his empty wagons for the same purpose at Whippy Swamp or Crockettville. He wishes you to send all the empty wagons of the other divisions of your command for the same purpose. One regiment from General Hazen's division, with the one from General Woods' division, will be sufficient guard. General Mower succeeded in driving the enemy from Rivers' Bridge this evening, and now occupies their position. It is reported that Buford's Bridge was burned this evening, and the enemy evacuated the position. The general wishes you to send two brigades of General Woods' division to that point to-morrow morning to occupy that point and rebuild the bridge, leaving one brigade at Angley's Post-Office until you come up, when it will follow. Angley's Post-Office is the same as Barker's Mill.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER, FIFTEENTH CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., February 3, 1865.

Major WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following statement of transportation belonging to this corps and its distribution, in compliance with your request of the 2d instant: Corps headquarters, 10 wagons, 2 ambulances; detachment supply train, 34 wagons; First Division, 199 wagons, 38 ambulances; Second Division, 146 wagons, 32 ambulances; Third Division, 153 wagons, 30 ambulances; Fourth Division, 190 wagons, 40 ambulances; Twenty-ninth Missouri Mounted Infantry, 2 wagons, 1 ambulance; signal corps, 2 wagons; Artillery Brigade, 58 wagons, 1 ambulance. Total, 794 wagons, 144 ambulances. Captain Lynch, assistant quartermaster, has been ordered to transfer the wagons of the ordnance train of the Artillery Brigade to the several divisions, and the ambulance to the ambulance corps.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

G. L. FORT,
Lieut. Col. and Chief Quartermaster, Fifteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 3, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. WOODS,
Commanding First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you send all your empty wagons back to Pocotaligo Landing, to load with subsistence stores. General Blair's train will leave here to-morrow a. m. at daylight, by the way of Crockettville and Hickory Hill Post-Office. If your train arrives first it will wait for General Blair. If his arrives first it will wait for yours, and the two proceed together. You will send one regiment as a guard for the train.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 3, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. WOODS,
Commanding First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding wishes you to move to Buford's Bridge to-morrow with two brigades, leaving the other at Angley's Post-Office to follow as other troops arrive. Secure that bridge and put it and the causeway in good repair. General Mower carried the works in our front this evening, so that, should you meet with any resistance at Buford's Bridge, simply make a demonstration, and we will turn the position from here.

Very respectfully,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Duck Creek, February 3, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to state that troops of my command have taken possession of opposite bank of Duck Creek without opposition. I have established my camp near the swamp on Allendale road.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
Camp in the Field, S. C., February 3, 1865.

Capt. S. M. BUDLONG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Division:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the scouting party sent out by Colonel Tourtellotte succeeded in forming a junction with General Hazen, and learned that he has one regiment over the river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. T. CLARK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 3, 1865.

Major-General BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that when he was down toward the front this morning he observed that the main road to the river was in very bad condition. As he feels confident that we will use the road soon, he wishes you to send the pioneers of General Force's division and have it corduroyed wherever it needs.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 3, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you have all your empty wagons ready at daylight to-morrow to return to Pocotaligo Landing and load with subsistence stores, and rejoin the command as soon as possible. You will send the Ninth Regiment Illinois Mounted Infantry as a guard.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 31. HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 3, 1865.

* * * * * * *

IV. Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will move his command along the north bank of the Salkehatchie River to-morrow morning and join on to the right of the First Division now in position at Rivers' Bridge.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 3, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you place your command under arms, ready to move at a moment's notice.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Two Miles from Lawtonville, S. C., February 3, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: I send by the bearer some dispatches that arrived in the night by the messenger sent by me to General Sherman. We reached this point last night, had a smart skirmish with about a brigade of Wheeler's cavalry, and a battery of artillery. They were driven away with a loss to us of 1 killed and 7 wounded. My advance occupied Lawtonville last night. We found the roads yesterday in fair condition, but the rain of to-day may make them worse. We shall get to Duck Branch Post-Office to-day, from whence I shall communicate with General Sherman.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Cross-Roads, February 3, 1865.

Brevet Major-General WILLIAMS,
Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Sherman to say that he desires you to halt in the vicinity, or at Duck Branch Post-Office, and to reconnoiter to your left, awaiting further orders.

With respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, February 3, 1865—5 p. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: You may move your command by Allendale Post-Office to a position about Hayes', depending on two divisions Fifteenth Corps being at Buford's Bridge, Seventeenth Corps at Rivers' Bridge, and one division Fifteenth Corps at Angley's Post-Office. I will be at Angley's. I want you to seem to be moving on Barnwell. Report to me as often as possible your progress, and you would do well to march your men on the flanks of your train, especially when abreast of Erwinton.

Yours.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Duck Branch Post-Office, S. C., February 3, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow via Smyrna and Allendale, as follows: Third Division at 7 a. m.; First Division at 8 a. m. The artillery will occupy the same position in the column as in the march of to-day.

General Ward and General Jackson will each send out at daylight all of their pioneers to repair the road.

General Jackson will dispose of his troops along the column, so as to cover the trains of one of General Ward's brigades. General Ward will march two unencumbered brigades in the advance.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Sister's Ferry, Ga., February 3, 1865.

Brevet Major-General GEARY,
Commanding Second Division, Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move your command immediately in rear of the cavalry train, and that you rejoin the Twentieth Corps, marching steadily night and day, by way of Lawtonville and Duck Branch Post-Office. The cavalry is now crossing the pontoon bridge.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Duck Branch Post-Office, February 3, 1865.

Brigadier-General WARD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: In consideration of the bad weather, the general has sent word to your pioneers that they need not break up their camp to-night unless they have already done so, telling them at the same time to be here by daylight in the morning, when the general desires to have them report to Major Stephenson, Thirty-first Wisconsin Volunteers, who has been placed in charge of all the pioneers for the day. They will report at the cross-roads just back from these headquarters, the one General Robinson went out on.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Rivers' Bridge, February 3, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. G. FOSTER,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: I send you some seventy or eighty wounded. We carried this evening the works in our front at this place, and have effected a lodgment on the other bank of the Salkehatchie. The work was done by two divisions of General Blair's corps. I think the enemy's position at this bridge the strongest I ever saw. Mower and his men have shown indomitable energy as well as confident gallantry. Giles A.

Smith also led his division across the swamp and the river at another place, creating a diversion that enabled Mower to succeed without the enemy being re-enforced. Please do what you can for our poor fellows.

Very truly, yours,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Pocotaligo, S. C., February 3, 1865.

Rear-Admiral J. A. DAHLGREN,
Commanding South Atlantic Blockading Squadron:

ADMIRAL: General Potter has handed me a letter received by him relative to the withdrawal of the Naval Brigade from this command, in which Commander Preble is censured for withdrawing without orders from these headquarters. In a letter from department headquarters dated December 13, 1864, I was informed that the brigade would be called for for other service and directed to send it whenever you expressed a desire for its return. I only regretted that by leaving during my absence I was deprived of the opportunity of informing them of the high estimation in which they were held, not only by myself but the entire command. You will confer on me a favor by announcing to the brigade that its gallantry in action and good conduct during the irksome life in camp won from all the land forces with which it served the highest praise. The officers, for their gentlemanly bearing and strict attention to duty, received from all the credit justly their due. The harmony that prevailed throughout the command proved that it any jealousy had previously existed between the different branches of the service all that was wanting to efface it was a better knowledge of each other. To Commander Preble, Captains Matthews, O'Kane, and Crosman and Lieutenant Stoddard, with whom I was myself more immediately brought in contact, I give my warmest thanks for the support rendered me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
No. 29. } *Hilton Head, S. C., February 3, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

VI. The detachment of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry now on duty at this post will proceed at once to Pocotaligo, with five days' rations, and report to General Hatch for duty in the field. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

By command of Maj. Gen. J. G. Foster:

THORNDIKE D. HODGES,
Capt., 35th U. S. Colored Troops, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Pocotaligo, S. C., February 3, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER, BEAUFORT DISTRICT,
Department of the South:

SIR: The brigadier-general commanding directs me to say that he desires you to place, with as little delay as possible, one regiment of

troops on the mainland at the end of the causeway at Port Royal Ferry. They will take with them intrenching tools, to be used in constructing a bridge-head. You will please return by bearer an answer to this communication, stating at what time the troops will be at the point designated. The brigadier-general commanding also directs me to say that if you doubt his authority for giving these instructions you will please communicate with department headquarters on the subject. Please, also, to furnish these headquarters with the number of effective men of your command, not including those actually serving on Edisto Island.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Washington, D. C., February 3, 1865.

Brig. Gen. S. P. CARTER,
Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: You will please proceed without delay to Annapolis, Md., and report for duty to Brig. Gen. T. F. Meagher, commanding Provisional Division of the Armies of the Tennessee and Cumberland. If General Meagher be not at Annapolis you will assume command of all the troops at that place belonging to his division and conduct them to New Berne, N. C., reporting on arrival at Beaufort to Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer for further orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 23D ARMY CORPS,
No. 6. } *Steamship Atlantic, February 3, 1865.*

I. The several steamers containing the portions of the Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, now lying at Alexandria, will sail to-morrow morning, 4th instant, at daylight. The commanding officer of senior rank will be responsible for all the troops on board each vessel respectively, and after entering Chesapeake Bay will instruct the master of the vessel to make the best of his way to Cape Fear Inlet, N. C., where the fleet will rendezvous and await further orders. The destination of the command will be kept secret by the several commanding officers until communicated to the masters of vessels as above ordered.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ANNAPOLIS, MD., *February 3, 1865—2.30 p. m.*
(Received 4.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

According to the estimate of Captain Blodgett, assistant quartermaster, there is now transportation at this point for 7,400 men in all, 1,855 of this number being now on board. A steamer that left Balti-

more at noon yesterday with 450 men put back on account of ice. General Meagher went to Baltimore yesterday. If troops are coming here by rail I think that the Government should take entire control of the road from Annapolis Junction.

ROBT. N. SCOTT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ANNAPOLIS, MD., *February 3, 1865.*
(Received 9 a. m. 4th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

One of General Schofield's brigades arrived at 5.30 p. m., and is being embarked. I understand from here that this command was to be shipped separate from any of Meagher's troops, and I so informed Captain Blodgett. Many of these transports have no bunks, and I do not think they can carry the number of men estimated; for example, the Creole and Nevada, estimated to carry 1,000 men each, are very much crowded with 700 men each. These ships were selected for Schofield's troops. The steamer John Rice has not arrived. Colonel Casement, commanding brigade of Schofield's corps, expects orders as to his movements after embarkation. His troops will be on board by 12 o'clock to-night.

ROBT. N. SCOTT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 4, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The following dispatch is taken from to-day's Richmond Whig.

CHARLESTON, *February 2, 1865.*

A dispatch from Broxton's Bridge, dated 7.40 last night, says the enemy advanced to-day across Whippy Swamp, driving in our cavalry on our left, six miles from this place. They are supposed to be in heavy force. There is a column of cavalry on the Augusta road moving rapidly for some unknown point. Whippy Swamp is about thirty miles northwest of Pocotaligo, and about the same distance southwest of Branchville. Before reaching the latter place Sherman's troops will have to cross several tributaries of the Combahee as well as the Edisto River.

Later.—The enemy have possession of McBride's Bridge, and skirmishing is going on in front of Broxton's Bridge. The enemy are certainly moving on Branchville.

A dispatch from Adams' Run says that the enemy came up in two barges to Young's Island yesterday about noon, and drove in our pickets. They fired several bridges on plantations, and retired this morning.

Three steamers are off White Point, and a landing is threatened.

Adams' Run is about twenty miles southwest of Charleston.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 31. } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 4, 1865.

* * * * * * *

III. The following will be the order of march for to-morrow: The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, and the Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will

cross the Salkehatchie, the former at Buford's Bridge and the latter at Rivers' Bridge, and go into camp on each side of the road on the first favorable ground, with the exception of one division of each corps, which will move out and encamp at a distance of three or four miles from the river. The movement will be made as early as possible, so as to enable the men to wash and that those regiments that desire it may have divine service.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 12. } *Angley's Post-Office, S. C., February 4, 1865.*

This campaign will bring the troops of the army in constant proximity to the light troops of the enemy, and the utmost caution is enjoined upon the entire command at all times. Whenever any party of any size is on or off picket the utmost precaution of a regular advance should be observed, and arms ready for use always carried, and to this end the riding in vehicles, excepting the sick, is prohibited. A strict observance of the above by every officer and soldier of the command will save the division many valuable men.

To be read to every regiment and detachment.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. B. Hazen:

G. LOFLAND,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Ga., February 4, 1865.

Capt. H. R. BENJAMIN,
Acting Assistant Quartermaster:

You will immediately hitch up your trains preparatory to moving across the river, and will move without further orders as soon as General Geary's command, now passing, has crossed, following directly in his rear. It will therefore be necessary to either go yourself or send one of your officers to ascertain when his command is out of your way.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. M. Corse:

LOUIS H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Ga., February 4, 1865.

Col. R. N. ADAMS,
Commanding Second Brigade:

You will instruct the commanding officer of the Twelfth Illinois Infantry Volunteers to hold his regiment in readiness to move to the front at 3 o'clock this p. m., armed and equipped, and supplied with fifty axes and twenty-five spades.

It is the intention to throw him in advance of the trains.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. M. Corse:

LOUIS H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 4, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Howard to request you to send back or leave one small brigade to guard the supplies left on this side of the river. If you desire to move General Force's division to the front a brigade of General Mower's division may be sent back after that movement is completed. Department headquarters will remain here till Monday morning.

Very respectfully,

E. WHITTLESEY,
Major and Judge-Advocate.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 32. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 4, 1865.

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III. In order to comply with Special Field Orders, No. 31, Extract III, headquarters Department and Army of the Tennessee (copy inclosed*), Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will move his command across Rivers' Bridge to a point about four miles from the river. He will cause the road he moves on to be placed in good condition.

Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, and Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will remain in their present positions to-morrow, and as soon as General Force has moved his command across the river will move over such portions of their trains as may be on this side.

* * * * * * *

VI. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will send one brigade from his command to this side of the river to-morrow morning as soon as General Force's command has crossed. They will be placed in position to protect the stores remaining on this side, and the commanding officer will report at these headquarters for instructions.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 4, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to inform you that he has sent a staff officer to move your brigade (Colonel Wiles), now near Broxton's Bridge, back to the position occupied by the Fourth Division yesterday, with instructions to intrench. The point they occupy is about two miles from these headquarters on the river road. Your mounted men are instructed to watch the roads beyond Colonel Wiles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See p. 294.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 27. } *Near Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 4, 1865.*

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IV. This command will move at 8 a. m. to-morrow in the following order: First, Second Brigade; second, Battery Fifteenth Ohio; third, First Brigade, excepting one regiment, which will report to Capt. J. B. Pearce, commissary of subsistence, Third Division, for the purpose of guarding stores. Ambulances and trains as heretofore.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Sister's Ferry, February 4, 1865.

Col. M. C. HUNTER,
Commanding First Brigade, Third Division, 14th Army Corps:

COLONEL: I am directed by General Baird, commanding division, to inform you that the division will probably cross the river to-morrow morning at 9 or 10 o'clock.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. W. ACHESON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, } HDQRS. 14TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 5. } *Sister's Ferry, Ga., February 4, 1865.*

The corps will cross the Savannah River in the following order:

General Carlin will cross his division (the wagon trains in advance) to-morrow as soon after dawn as he can get possession of the bridge. He will encamp in a favorable position near the upper landing on the South Carolina shore.

General Baird will cross his division (trains in advance) immediately in rear of General Carlin, encamping near the upper landing.

Lieutenant-Colonel Moore with his trains, followed by the reserve artillery and corps headquarters, will cross in rear of General Baird.

General Morgan will cross his command (trains in advance) in rear of corps headquarters and encamp as he will hereafter be directed.

Each division commander will cause his trains to be loaded with commissary and quartermaster stores with the least delay possible after his wagons or any of them have reached the upper landing.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, February 4, 1865—3 a. m.

Brevet Major-General WILLIAMS,
Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: Inclosed I send you a copy of report* just received from Major-General Howard, his operations giving full possession of the Salkehatchie. General Sherman desires you will move slowly to the

* See Howard to Sherman, February 3, p. 286.

point indicated in the instructions sent this p. m., these operations giving you probably a clear road. It is reported that Wheeler has passed around our front across the Salkehatchie. Please communicate with General Slocum the progress made, and our present situation, and the fact of our being in possession of the Salkehatchie, given by Mower's assault to-day; also such other items as will be of information for him. We will move as indicated.

I am, general, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Send substance of this to Slocum. I think you had better send the bulk of your train under small escort by the direct road to Buford's Bridge, to which point you may conduct your command around by Allendale Post-Office and Arnold Church, making as much display as possible. Take enough wagons and artillery with you to forage good, and try and be at Buford's Bridge to-morrow night, so as you can pass the Salkehatchie then without fail. There, probably, we shall move without waiting for Slocum, though I want Kilpatrick up as quick as possible, but he should swing around to Barnwell, but not farther west without orders.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Duck Branch Post-Office, February 4, 1865—6 a. m.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: I send herewith copies of two dispatches just received from General Sherman.* They give the orders for the movements of my command. We arrived at this place at 2 p. m. yesterday, and immediately communicated with General Sherman, who had reached this road on the north side of the Coosawhatchie. I send with these dispatches Lieutenant Mickle, acting assistant adjutant-general of the Artillery Brigade, who will give you any information regarding the roads, &c., to this place. We found them better than expected, and have repaired all the bad places. We have no ammunition for artillery, except that in the chests, our train being all with Geary's division. I particularly desire that you will have a sufficient number of wagons of the artillery ammunition train crossed to supply the three batteries now with me, and send it under a strong escort of the Twentieth Corps troops to join me, via Buford's Bridge. I would like to have my headquarters train sent forward also. Geary's division, I suppose, will rejoin the command as soon as he can be crossed over the Savannah.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Allendale, S. C., February 4, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow via Arnold Church, toward Buford's Bridge, as follows: First Division at 7 a. m. Third Division

* See Howard to Sherman, February 3, p. 286, and Dayton to Williams, next, *ante*.

at 7.30 a. m. The artillery in the same place in the column as in the march of to-day The two brigades of the First Division will march unencumbered as the advance. General Ward will make such disposition of his troops as to protect and assist the whole train.

Notwithstanding the numerous orders already published to the command, in the march of to-day stragglers and foraging parties were found scattered over the whole country far in advance of the head of the column.

Commanders of divisions are requested to adopt such measures as will in future prevent this disobedience of orders.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SELFRIDGE'S HEADQUARTERS,
Sister's Ferry, February 4, 1865.

[General GEARY?:]

GENERAL: I wish to have Kilpatrick's train move with you, and when you reach the corps tell General Williams to divide it among his three divisions. I am very anxious to get your division, Selfridge's brigade, and Kilpatrick's train out to Robertsville to-night, so as to give room for the trains of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Corps to move to this point and load. Please take charge of matters at this point, and see that the trains here do not block up the road and that no time is lost in loading. Selfridge reports one bad piece of road between this point and Robertsville.

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 4, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States, City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: Major Gray, of my staff, returned last night from General Sherman's headquarters with the latest information. He left General Sherman at a place called "The Store," at the cross-roads near Duck Bridge, over Coosawhatchie River, thirty-one miles and a half from Pocotaligo Station, on the evening of February 2. He had with him at that point three divisions of the Fifteenth Corps, which corps had moved out from Pocotaligo on the 1st, marching to Hickory Hill, eighteen miles, on that day, and twelve miles to "The Store" on the second day. General Howard, with the Seventeenth Corps, was, on the evening of the 2d, near Whippy Swamp, near the Salkehatchie River. He had also marched from near Pocotaligo on the 1st instant, taking the right hand road lying near the Salkehatchie River. General Slocum, with the main body of the Left Wing, which had marched up the south bank of the Savannah River, has been at Sister's Ferry several days constructing a pontoon bridge across the river. Two divisions of the Twentieth Corps, which had crossed the river opposite Savannah, marched up the north bank and were at Robertsville. The crossing of the river at Sister's Ferry has been found to be more difficult than was expected, on account of the long distance to be cordu-

royed on each side, and I learned at Savannah this morning that General Slocum will hardly be able to get his troops well over the river ready for a start before to-morrow (the 5th). This will delay General Sherman a little. Major Gray reports the roads fair and all the wagons of the Right Wing up. There were no stragglers, and the troops found in the country forage enough for the animals, and cattle and hogs for the army. The inhabitants generally, with their slaves and movables, had moved higher up the country. The troops burned all buildings and fences on the route. There was nothing but cavalry encountered thus far. General Sherman intended breaking the railroad near Midway, to the west of Branchville, and thought after that he might find opposition in crossing the Edisto River. It is possible that the troops in his front may receive re-enforcements from Hood. General Sherman wished me to press upon General Schofield the necessity of his advance, which I have done.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Copy to Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck, Washington, D. C.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 4, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. RUFUS SAXTON,
Inspector of Settlements and Plantations, Dept. of the South:

GENERAL: I left Savannah at 11.30 this a. m., at which time I had not received the official statement of the requests made by you in our conversation of yesterday morning, which I then asked you to present to me in writing. I have now to again request that you will indicate to me in writing what action you desire me to take in order to enable you to discharge your duties under General Sherman's Special Field Orders, No. 15, current series, and am,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 30. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 4, 1865.

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II. Brig. Gen. Henry Prince, U. S. Volunteers, having reported to these headquarters, in compliance with Special Field Orders, No. 23, from headquarters Military Division of the Mississippi, dated January 29, 1865, is hereby ordered to take charge of all officers and men arriving at this port for General Sherman's army, and place them in camp between Beaufort and Pocotaligo, S. C. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

By command of Maj. Gen. J. G. Foster:

THORNDIKE D. HODGES,
Capt., 35th U. S. Colored Troops, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Morris Island, S. C., February 4, 1865.

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the South:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to repeat my former statement with regard to the reduced number of the garrison of this district. I have at present to protect an exposed outpost line from twelve to fifteen miles in length with a force of less than 2,500 men for duty, and that in front of an enemy at least three times as strong as myself. My men are entirely worn out, and I can now hardly hold them responsible for the exact performance of their duty. Frequently they are on duty two nights out of three. It is evidently to the interest of the enemy to destroy my communication on Cole's Island. This he is enabled to do, if enterprising, from the fact that they consist of a number of bridges and extended plank walks, which I cannot properly guard with my present force. Four men have deserted yesterday from the mortar schooner stationed at the White House, and they will doubtless furnish the enemy with all the information which he may require for such an enterprise. I therefore respectfully beg that the 200 men of the Fifty-fourth New York Volunteers, and the 300 men of the Thirty-third U. S. Colored Troops, now absent with the Coast Division, may be ordered back to this district.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Morris Island, S. C., February 4, 1865.

Capt. WILLIAM L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the South:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor respectfully to suggest that it may be desirable in the course of the next few weeks to send spies into Charleston. If this should be desired, it would be necessary to hold out inducements in the way of a reward, and also to fit out any such persons with gold and silver currency. As I have no funds at my disposal that could be thus appropriated, I ask for the instructions of the major-general commanding on the subject. If the general approves the measure, I beg to be informed what inducements may be offered, and also to be supplied with a certain amount of specie for this purpose.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS COAST DIVISION,
Pocotaligo, S. C., February 4, 1865.

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: In the absence of the brigadier-general commanding I have the honor to state that the Thirty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops are at present absent on an expedition to the Combahee River. The

steamer Louise has arrived for the purpose of transferring it to Florida, and as the regiment will be near Port Royal Ferry, the brigadier-general commanding thought best to use the steamer Louise to transfer the wounded who have arrived from General Sherman's front to the hospital at Beaufort, there being no suitable accommodations here. The Thirty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops will be ordered to march to Beaufort.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 4, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
District of Beaufort, S. C.:

SIR: The major-general commanding directs that you furnish from the force under your command to Brigadier-General Hatch, commanding Coast Division, such companies as he may need for military operations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. D. HODGES,
Capt., 35th U. S. Colored Troops, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 4, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Twenty-third Army Corps, Beaufort, N. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that General Sherman, with the Right Wing of his army, moved from Pocotaligo on the morning of the 1st instant, the Seventeenth Corps taking the road to the right, nearest the Salkehatchie, and the Fifteenth Corps the road to the left. This wing made thirty-two miles in two days, and on the evening of the 2d instant General Sherman's headquarters were at The Store, at the cross-roads near Duck Bridge, over the Coosawhatchie. General Slocum, who had marched from Savannah with the Left Wing, had not, up to yesterday (the 3d), succeeded in completing his bridge across the Savannah River at Sister's Ferry, for the purpose of advancing by the way of Robertsville and Duck Bridge. This may delay General Sherman somewhat. He will, however, in a day or two strike the railroad west of Branchville, and after destroying it will cross the Edisto. There he will probably meet with opposition, and it is possible that he may find a portion of Hood's army in his front. General Sherman desires me to press upon you again the necessity of carrying out your part of the programme as soon as you can do so effectively. He wants you to take Goldsborough and hold it if possible. If you cannot do this, to hold Kinston and as much of the railroad beyond as possible. Circumstances favoring you, he hopes you may be also able to take Raleigh and Wilmington. He does not want you to wait for his movements in your advance, but to commence your movements as soon as you can get ready. General Sherman attaches great importance to the effect that your advance will produce.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
No. 19. } *Steamship Atlantic, February 4, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

II. Maj. T. J. Milholland, One hundred and seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, is hereby relieved from duty as acting assistant inspector-general, Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, and will report to his regimental commander for duty. This order to date January 13, 1865.

III. Capt. L. A. Burke, Ninety-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, is hereby appointed acting assistant inspector-general, Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, to date from January 13, 1865.

IV. Capt. John Corbin, Ninety-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, is hereby appointed acting assistant inspector-general, Third Brigade, Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, to date from January 13, 1865.

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VII. Lieut. Col. G. W. Schofield, chief of artillery, Army of the Ohio, will establish his office in the city of Washington, D. C., for the purpose of reorganizing and refitting the field artillery of the Twenty-third Army Corps and will remain there until further orders. This order to date from January 24, 1865.

VIII. Lieut. Col. G. W. Schofield, chief of artillery, Army of the Ohio, will proceed to Baltimore, Md., and the city of New York on business connected with the artillery of the Twenty-third Army Corps, on the completion of which he will return to Washington City. This order to date from February 2, 1865.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 23D ARMY CORPS,
No. 9. } *Steamship Atlantic, February 4, 1865.*

The following regulations will be strictly observed by the officers and men of this command during the present voyage:

1. No open lights will be allowed in any part of the ship occupied by troops. The ship's lanterns will be arranged by the officers of the vessel in such way as to light the decks during the night, and must not be opened or interfered with by the men.

2. No smoking will be allowed in any part of the vessel used for sleeping, except the open decks. The men may smoke in the open air upon the upper decks, and the brigade commander will provide for giving proper airing and opportunity to smoke to the men quartered below. Officers will smoke either upon deck or in the smoking-room, near the water-closets.

3. The division and brigade commissaries will make arrangements with the steward of the ship for cooking the men's coffee and doing other necessary cooking for the command, and for serving the same out at regular hours.

4. The canteens of the men may be filled with drinking water once each day, the men being marched by companies under their proper officers to the pump in the fore part of the ship for that purpose.

5. The brigade commander, in consultation with the commander of the ship, will arrange for the perfect and regular policing of the quarters, sinks, &c.

6. The starboard side of the upper and main decks, abaft the engine, will be kept clear of men and reserved for the use of officers, both of the command and of the ship, during the day, and such portion of this space as may necessarily be occupied by the men for sleeping at night will have a passage kept entirely clear for the use of the officers and crew of the vessel in working her at night. No men will at any time be allowed to go upon the roofs of the houses on the upper deck.

7. Proper roll-calls will be established, and the line officers will be strictly required to attend them and to make close personal inspections daily of the condition of their men, and to be personally in command of them when marched out for water or coffee, or when on duty.

8. An officer of the day will be daily appointed by the brigade commanders, and shall have full charge of the execution of this order and supervision of all the police arrangements of the command. Proper line officers will be detailed on guard duty, and sentries will be regularly posted at the bulkhead of the ship store-room on the forward lower deck, at the sinks, over the lights at night, and on the middle line of the decks reserved under paragraph 6.

9. The officer of the day, after reporting at brigade headquarters each day, will report to the captain of the ship, in order that the ship's officers may know to whom to apply for any enforcement of these regulations.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 4, 1865—11.30 a. m.*

Colonel CASEMENT,
Annapolis, Md.:

Your brigade will go to Fort Fisher or Cape Fear River, land, and send back the transports.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

ANNAPOLIS, MD., *February 4, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

The brigade is embarked. I have no further instructions. What shall I do?

J. S. CASEMENT,
Colonel, Commanding.

ALEXANDRIA, *February 4, 1865.*

Col. J. S. CASEMENT,
Commanding Brigade, Annapolis:

Written orders were given Captain Rhodes. If you have not them report with your command at mouth of Potomac for further orders, steamer Atlantic.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 4, 1865—12 m.*

Maj. R. N. SCOTT,
Annapolis, Md.:

If the commanders of troops and transports have not received General Schofield's orders give them in my name. Each transport must start as soon as it is loaded. Those of the Twenty-third Corps will go to Fort Fisher or Cape Fear River. Meagher's Provisional Division will go to Beaufort, N. C., reporting to General Palmer, at New Berne. The troops must not be mixed. As soon as transports are discharged they will return to Point Lookout and report by telegram to General Rucker. Orders to this effect were issued several days ago by General Schofield, but there may have been some neglect in distributing them.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

ANNAPOLIS, MD., *February 4, 1865.*
(Received 3.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

General Meagher expects to come here to-morrow, and to leave here with his command on Monday, 6th instant. Colonel Casement has received your order of to-day. No one here knows just how many men Meagher expects to take with him.

ROBT. N. SCOTT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 4, 1865—6 p. m.*

Maj. R. N. SCOTT,
Annapolis, Md.:

Order Meagher's troops aboard transports as fast as they are ready and the troops arrive. And as fast as transports are loaded order them to sea as directed. They will not wait for him, nor orders from him.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

ANNAPOLIS, MD., *February 4, 1865—9.30 p. m.*
(Received 10.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Under authority of your telegram of to-day, I have sent off one load of Meagher's troops, and have informed him that I should send the other vessels as soon as they were loaded. I understand that he proposed to have them wait till all were loaded, and that he proposes to come down by steamer from Baltimore to-morrow afternoon. Under that arrangement three steamers have been lying here partially loaded, when one or two of them might have been filled and started. Meagher has failed to notify the quartermaster of the number of men he sends from Baltimore, or when they leave there. I had suggested to him the

propriety of furnishing this information. He has selected a steamer for his headquarters, and directed her to be kept empty till certain troops arrive. I will disregard this arrangement.

ROBT. N. SCOTT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 5, 1865—3.30 p. m.*
(Received 4.10 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Please inform me what portion of General Schofield's command, if any, has sailed.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 5, 1865—6.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

One division of the Twenty-third Corps sailed yesterday, numbering 5,000 or 6,000. Also over 2,000 of Meagher's division are off. The remainder of his force will embark as soon as they can be collected. They are in utter confusion, and he seems to be ignorant of what troops he has, or where they are. It is strange that General Thomas should have intrusted men to such an officer.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

FORT FISHER, *February 5, 1865.*
(Via Fort Monroe, 9.30 a. m., 7th.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

A dispatch from one of General Foster's staff to Schofield, dated February 2, states that Sherman with his troops started February 1 to move rapidly into the interior of South Carolina. Other information is that he had previously been at Pocotaligo. None of Schofield's troops have yet arrived, and all quiet except that the navy occasionally shell Fort Anderson. Loud cheering last night along the rebel line was thought by General Paine to indicate re-enforcements. All quiet, and warm weather.

C. B. COMSTOCK.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 5, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I have delayed issuing an order, hoping to hear from you, but thinking you might have depended on what you said to me yesterday, I have now issued it. In case you wish to suspend or modify, please do so to General Logan and send me word by my staff officer.

Lieutenant McQueen found the bridges burned across the Little Salkehatchie and swamps, and the enemy on the other side. It was this information that determined me only to attempt the Little Salkehatchie to-morrow.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

P. S.—General Blair moved over to-day as directed.

Respectfully,

O. O. H.,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Buford's Bridge, S. C., February 5, 1865.

General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: General Kilpatrick is now up to Allendale Post-Office, and will move to-morrow on Barnwell, and thence to join us about Bamberg. I wish your wing to move now with all expedition consistent with due caution and make a strong lodgment on the South Carolina road anywhere from Graham's to the Edisto. I will instruct General Williams to cross here and move four miles toward Barnwell, and thence follow cross-roads in the direction of Graham's Station. I suppose you will move the Seventeenth Corps direct on Midway and the Fifteenth on Bamberg. I will attend the Fifteenth Corps.

I am, &c.,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 32.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 5, 1865.

I. There being an insufficient number of maps of the State of South Carolina for distribution to the army, all captured maps of the State, or any part of it, or those that may be hereafter captured, will be turned over to division commanders, and by them forwarded to the chief engineer of the department at these headquarters, unless absolutely required for their own use, that they may be properly distributed.

II. The object of to-morrow's movement, which will commence at 7 a. m., will be to secure the line of the Little Salkehatchie River. The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will move on the Buford's Bridge and Lowry's Station or Bamberg road, the head of column reaching to the cross-roads at Duncanville, securing, if possible, the crossings of both branches of the Little Salkehatchie. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Major-General Blair commanding, will move on the road on which the command is now encamped, cross the Little Salkehatchie, and take up a strong position beyond. It will be well to move to the river by two routes, one division, followed by department headquarters and bridge train, by the direct route, and the other two divisions by a cross-road to the right, to the Broxton's Bridge and Midway road. The two routes come together at the Little Salke-

hatchie bridge. The bridge or bridges above referred to have been destroyed by the enemy, and he has some force on the other side of the river. The headquarters of the department will be near the head of column of the Seventeenth Corps, probably at Millersville Post-Office. The First Regiment Engineers Missouri Volunteers, Lieut. Col. W. Tweeddale commanding, will move as rear guard behind the bridge train.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Buford's Bridge, February 5, 1865.

Major-General LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Corps:

GENERAL: I have instructed General Howard to move the Right Wing and make a lodgment on the South Carolina Railroad in the neighborhood of Bamberg. You may therefore, in anticipation of the movement, make orders for the Fifteenth Corps to take the direct road by Duncanville. Kilpatrick will move by Barnwell, and I have ordered General Williams to cross the Big Salkehatchie by this bridge, then take the Barnwell road out as far as Ayers', where a road branches to Blackville. He will follow that to about Nimmons', trusting to find some road leading up to Graham's or Duncanville. I would like, if possible, that Hazen should be on the north side of the Barnwell [road] by 8 o'clock, so that Williams can pass him, and that the two armies should not get mixed at the place where Hazen's camp now is.

I am, yours, &c.,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Dickinson's Plantation, S. C., February 5, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Department and Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: My corps is encamped at the points indicated by your order of yesterday: First Division at Chitty's, Third at Moye's, and Second at Dr. Hayes'. I sent out to-day to Little Salkehatchie fifty mounted men. Found the bridge burned and the swamp, some 300 yards, badly obstructed, with the enemy posted on the opposite side, said to be one brigade. There is an abundance of meat, forage, &c., in the country.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 8.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., February 5, 1865.

I. The troops of this division will march at 7 a. m. to-morrow, sharp, in the following order, viz:

First. Third Brigade Infantry, Colonel Hurlbut commanding, with the battery moving in rear of its second regiment.

Second. First Brigade Infantry, General Rice commanding.

Third. Trains in the same order as to-day.

Fourth. Second Brigade Infantry, Colonel Adams commanding. Brigadier-General Rice will throw one regiment directly in rear of the ordnance train.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., February 5, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the following as the casualties in this command on the 2d and 3d instant, all of which are in the First Division: One officer and 17 enlisted men killed; 3 officers and 103 men wounded. General Mower estimates the losses of the enemy at about 200. There were 16 of their dead on the field and a hospital with 17 wounded found in rear of their position. The number of prisoners taken is 10, and of deserters 17.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Rivers' Bridge, S. C., February 5, 1865.

I have the honor to forward the within report. It will be noticed that the number of wounded differs from estimate, but I understand that not more than seventy were sent back; the rest, being slightly wounded, have joined their regiments. The number engaged, as near as we can ascertain, defending the works was 2,700, composed, as near as can be learned, of the Fifth Georgia Reserves, Thirty-second and Forty-seventh Georgia Regiments, two companies Texas Cavalry, Twenty-second South Carolina Cavalry, and Third Arkansas Cavalry.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

[FEBRUARY 5, 1865.—For complimentary letter from Howard to Blair, see Part I, p. 385.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 33. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., February 5, 1865.

* * * * * * *

VIII. The following are the orders for to-morrow:

1. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will move his command at 7 a. m., taking the right-hand road at his camp and marching on the Broxton's Bridge and Midway road.

2. Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will move his command forward at 7 a. m. on the direct Rivers' Bridge and Midway road. The train of department headquarters and the bridge train will follow the Fourth Division.

3. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will be prepared to move at 8 a. m. and will follow the Fourth Division to the point where the Third Division is now encamped, where he will take the right-hand road and follow that division. A staff officer will be left at this point to direct him.

4. The train of these headquarters will follow the troops of the Third Division.

5. The detachment of the Ninth Illinois Cavalry,* now in camp, will move in advance of the Third Division, scouting well down all roads leading to the right.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 28. } *In the Field, S. C., February 5, 1865.*

This command will march at 7 a. m. to-morrow in the following order: First, First Brigade; second, Battery Fifteenth Ohio; third, Second Brigade. Ambulances and trains as usual.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 14TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 9. } *In the Field, S. C., February 5, 1865.*

I. The attention of brigade commanders is called to the fact that many of their men indulge in the unmilitary and disgraceful habit of straggling. We are now entering upon another campaign into the enemy's country, where our own safety and that of the whole army depends upon the men being kept together and under their proper officers. When forage details are sent out they must be in charge of competent commissioned officers, and in no case will forage details be sent from any regiment or brigade of this command without such officer in command. Brigade commanders will take the necessary steps to prevent straggling, enforce obedience to this order, and will be held strictly responsible for every man lost through neglect of its provisions.

By order of Brig. Gen. W. P. Carlin:

J. E. EDMONDS,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Buford's Bridge, S. C., February 5, 1865.

General A. S. WILLIAMS,
Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: The Right Wing of the army will move early to-morrow against the South Carolina Railroad in the neighborhood of Bamberg.

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*Mounted infantry.

I wish you to cross the Salkehatchie and move toward the same point, but for convenience of movement suggest you take the Barnwell road to Ayers', where a road leads to Blackville, which intersects one coming into the direct Bamberg road from here at Little Salkehatchie. As you approach the Little Salkehatchie I think you can find some road to Bamberg without coming into collision with the Fifteenth Corps that will occupy ten miles of that road.

I think such a road will be found from Nimmons' to Duncanville, crossing Little Salkehatchie above or at Dowling's Mill. I will be near the leading division of the Fifteenth Corps. Kilpatrick will be about Barnwell to-morrow night and will strike the railroad next day between Blackville and Graham's. If you can find any other road than the one I suggest, which is nearly parallel with the road traveled by the Fifteenth Corps, and not more than six or seven miles off, you can take it, always sending me word, and in case of hearing the sound of serious battle change your course toward it.

I am yours, &c.,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Salkehatchie River, S. C., February 5, 1865.

This command will move to-morrow toward the South Carolina Railroad as follows: The Third Division at 7 a. m.; the First Division at 8 a. m. Each division will protect and assist its own trains. General Ward will march one unencumbered brigade in advance. Two batteries of artillery will march immediately in rear of the advanced brigade, and one battery will march with the First Division. General Ward will send his pioneers in advance of his column to repair the road across the swamp, in our immediate front.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Buford's Bridge, February 5, 1865.

General KILPATRICK,
Commanding Cavalry, Allendale:

GENERAL: Captain Newton has just arrived, and I am glad you are up. The enemy is all in the mist as to our movement, save they think Slocum's command has gone up to Augusta, and that I am moving on Branchville. We carried the position at Rivers' yesterday, and to-day have passed both corps across—Seventeenth at Rivers' and Fifteenth here at Buford's. I sent Williams round by Allendale to make a feint on Barnwell. To-morrow the Seventeenth Corps will move rapidly on Midway and the Fifteenth on Bamberg. Williams will follow in reserve. The enemy intended to defend the line of Salkehatchie, but are now falling back to the Edisto. Presuming you get to-day to Allendale Post-Office, I want you to-morrow to move rapidly on Barnwell, keeping up any feint you may please in the direction of Augusta. Next day strike the railroad where you please from Blackville to Lowry's. If you can, get and destroy cars, locomotives, and depots,

but don't delay long, but effectually destroy some piece of the track, enough to cut communication, and then turn to us about Duncanville and Bamberg. You will find plenty of corn and bacon. I think Wheeler's forces are scattered, and he has no idea where you are up to this moment, so you can act with a rush. Some cavalry retreated before General Williams to the northwest toward Augusta and other parts across the bridges of Salkehatchie. I don't care about your going into Barnwell, and only refer to it as the point where you will likely find cleared roads across the swamp. The bridges amount to nothing; the swamp is the worst, and you may cross it wherever you please. I shall expect to hear from you on the night of February 7 or morning of the 8th, when I will be with the Fifteenth Corps, not far from Duncanville or Bamberg. On this side the Salkehatchie we find the roads fine, with farms and abundance of forage. None has been destroyed. The farmers west of Salkehatchie were ordered to move their forage and stock to the east of Salkehatchie, expecting to hold that line. Mystify the enemy all you can, but break that road whilst I move straight on it about Lowry's.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 5, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have to thank you very much for your kind letter of instructions, and also the good advice it contained. I am almost ashamed of myself for having troubled you with such matters while your attention is occupied with things of so much greater importance. I shall try to keep things straight as far as possible. I have made a respectful request of the Secretary of War to have the recruiting and organizing of negroes left in the hands where it previously rested by orders and instructions of the War Department. I have backed the request by copies of orders, &c. I have also respectfully asked that General William Birney may be detailed to relieve General Saxton of his duties in this department. If both or either of these be granted there will be no further trouble, and everything will go on smoothly. The enemy having left General Hatch's front, that officer is preparing to cross the Combahee. I have sent two companies to build a tête-de-pont at Port Royal Ferry. General Prince is ordered to form a camp at Blair's landing on the Pocotaligo River (he has several hundred men already arrived from the North). He is to do all he can to forward supplies, and to aid in communicating with your army, and to support General Hatch, if needed. I am going to start this morning for Morris Island to do all I can in the way of demonstrations, and to land in Bull's Bay, as you requested, at the time specified to Major Gray. I forwarded intelligence of your movement to General Grant and General Halleck. I also sent further information yesterday of your arrival at "The Store," and wrote again in full to General Schofield, telling him of the importance you attached to his movement, and that he was to go ahead and take Goldsborough as soon as he was ready, and to take and hold all he could. I returned from Savannah yesterday. It was reported that the bridge at Sister's Ferry would not be ready for

crossing the main body before to-day. I sent information to General Slocum through General Easton this morning of the taking of Rivers' Bridge by Blair's corps.

With great respect, and kindest regards, ever yours, most truly,

J. G. FOSTER.

BEAUFORT, S. C., *February 5, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. G. FOSTER,

Commanding Department of the South:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 4th instant. In reply I have to say that I understood you to refuse all the verbal requests I made of you during our interview. As they are all I have to make at present, I could see no objection in placing them before you in writing, and I had decided not to do so. As you request them in writing, I respectfully submit them:

First. I have the honor to request the detail of two officers to assist me in the colonization of the freedmen. Second. That an order may be issued to the district commanders in the department instructing them to honor my passes to my assistants and the freedmen to go to different points in the department, given in the discharge of my duty under this order, and also on the Government transports when it can be done without injury to the service. Third. The organization and enlistment of colored recruits having been placed in my hands, that I may be recognized as charged with this duty. Your order of January 30, 1865, to Bvt. Brig. Gen. M. S. Littlefield places the matter entirely in his hands. I respectfully request that he be ordered to report to me.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. SAXTON,

Brevet Major-General of Volunteers.

[Indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 9, 1865.

Referred to Major-General Gillmore for his action.

J. G. FOSTER,

Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,

Hilton Head, S. C., February 5, 1865.

Maj. C. W. THOMAS,

Chief Quartermaster, Department of the South:

MAJOR: The major-general commanding has left with me the following instructions, and directs that they be sent to you for your information and guidance: First. The steamers Savannah and Augusta are to be turned over to Ensign Neil for temporary duty as picket boats and in landing troops as soon as possible. These boats are to follow to Folly Island. Second. Send mail to General Foster at Morris Island, or beyond, as soon as it arrives. Third. Use every exertion to fill promptly all the requirements of General Sherman's army. Fourth. See that the schooner, with the 30-pounder Parrotts on board, is towed to Folly Island as soon as the ammunition is on board. Fifth. The Delaware to be sent to report to General Foster as soon as ready.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 5, 1865.

Brig. Gen. HENRY PRINCE,
Hilton Head, S. C.:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to state that you are expected to render all the assistance you can in the transportation of supplies to General Sherman's army. You are also directed to re-enforce General Hatch, or to aid him in any way, should he require it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Folly Island, S. C., February 5, 1865.

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the South:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to transmit a telegram from headquarters Northern District, Department of the South, dated February 5, 2.15 p. m., as follows:

HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Morris Island, S. C., February 5, 1865.

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the South:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has taken place since my report of yesterday. Fatigue parties continue as before mentioned on Castle Pinckney and other of the enemy's works. It being very clear last evening the enemy's pickets on James Island could be more distinctly seen than usual, and showed almost double their former numbers. Cheering has been heard this morning along the rebel line on James Island. A blockade runner passed in safely last night. The steamer Cosmopolitan arrived this a. m. with the detachment of the Fifty-fourth New York Veteran Volunteers from General Hatch's command.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding District.

This telegraphic letter I was ordered to send you.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. KOZLAY,
Colonel Fifty-fourth New York Veteran Volunteers,
Commanding Post, Folly Island.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Pocotaligo, S. C., February 5, 1865.

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that I to-day effected a crossing of the Salkehatchie at two points. The upper point where the railroad crosses was without opposition. At Combahee Ferry we met with some resistance, but succeeded in forcing the passage without loss on our side. One lieutenant of artillery was captured at the latter point. I shall cross in force at one of these points as soon as the bridges are built so that artillery can be got over. At present I have foot bridges at both points.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 5, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. GROVER,
Commanding District of Savannah, Department of the South:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to furnish you with the following extract from a letter of General Sherman, dated February 2, 1865:

As to military discipline, I decide that General Saxton cannot go to a military post and do anything which in the judgment of its commander is calculated to produce disorder or confusion. The commanding officer of a post is the proper person to see that it does not become embarrassed with idle or worthless vagabonds of any color, sex, or kind. You may sustain General Grover in anything he may do as to maintaining good order and government at Savannah.

I am instructed by General Foster to state that the letter of General Sherman, from which the above is an extract, is of a confidential nature, else a copy of the whole letter would be sent to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DIST. OF FLORIDA, FOURTH SEPARATE BRIG.,
DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Jacksonville, Fla., February 5, 1865.

Capt. CHARLES A. KEITH,
Commanding Detachment Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry:

CAPTAIN: The brigadier-general commanding orders you to cross to the east bank of the Saint John's at 7.30 a. m. to-morrow, with all your available mounted men for the purpose of making a reconnaissance.

You will first report to these headquarters for instructions.

By order of Brig. Gen. E. P. Scammon:

HENRY SETON,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

FORT MONROE, *February 5, 1865.*
(Received 7.05 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

I have just arrived here with my advance. Have you any instructions for me?

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 5, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Fort Monroe, Va.:

Your instructions were left with Colonel Webster, quartermaster. I have no further instructions.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Steamship Atlantic, February 5, 1865.

CAPTAIN STEAMSHIP ATLANTIC:

SIR: Major-General Schofield directs that you put in at Fortress Monroe, where you will receive on board your vessel a quantity of ammunition; after which you will proceed to Fort Fisher, N. C., debark your troops and cargo, and report to the general quartermaster, as directed in your order of February 3, from office of depot quartermaster at Alexandria, Va.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Fort Monroe, February 5, 1865.

Brig. Gen. I. N. PALMER,
New Berne, N. C.:

GENERAL: I inclose a copy of an order constituting the Department of North Carolina.* I will issue an order assuming command after my arrival at Fort Fisher, for which place I will start to-morrow morning. My headquarters will be in the field with the troops operating against Wilmington. I have ordered to New Berne, to report to you, a division under Brig. Gen. T. F. Meagher, about 5,000 strong. It has probably started from Annapolis by this time. That division is composed of detachments from General Sherman's army. If any troops of the Twenty-third Corps stop at Beaufort send them forward to Fort Fisher. I will run up and see you or send you further instructions in a few days. Meanwhile make all preparations to advance to Kinston and repair the railroad between that place and New Berne. Send the pontoon train to Cape Fear River at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

ANNAPOLIS, *February 5, 1865—11 a. m.*
(Received 2 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Colonel Casement's brigade left yesterday. Two steamers with General Meagher's men will be off this forenoon. The senior officer has orders from Meagher to proceed with these troops to Beaufort and to wait there for his arrival. Shall they wait at Beaufort, or shall each load proceed from Beaufort to New Berne? General Schofield's orders say that Meagher's Provisional Division will "move to Beaufort, and thence by rail to New Berne, N. C., and join the command of General Palmer, to whom General Meagher will report, on his arrival at Beaufort, for further orders." There are about 200 convalescents and stragglers in Camp Parole belonging to Twenty-third Corps.

ROBT. N. SCOTT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See p. 179.

ANNAPOLIS, *February 5, 1865—1 p. m.*
(Received 2 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

The Catawba and Alhambra are getting under way, 1,932 men on board, making in all 2,167 of his [Meagher's] men that have been started; 800 men are on the steamer New York, and I understand that 1,000 are now en route from Baltimore. We do not know how many more are at Baltimore.

ROBT. N. SCOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 5, 1865—4 p. m.*

Maj. R. N. SCOTT,
Annapolis:

You will direct, in my name, the commanding officer on each transport to report by telegraph to General Palmer at New Berne, and to proceed to that place by railroad as rapidly as transportation can be obtained. No one will wait for General Meagher's arrival, and if such orders have been given they will be countermanded. New Berne is the destination of these troops, not Beaufort, and there must be no unnecessary delay at the latter place. Give the proper orders to the commander of each transport without regard to any orders of General Meagher.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

ANNAPOLIS, *February 5, 1865—1 p. m.*
(Received 5 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Eight hundred and fifty men have just arrived by railroad from Baltimore. Have been twenty-four hours en route. Steamer New York will be fitted up and started as soon as possible. In addition to his own brigade, Colonel Casement took about 100 stragglers and convalescents found here belonging to his division. There are still about 200 such men here belonging to Twenty-third Corps, and one or two officers.

ROBT. N. SCOTT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 6, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

The Richmond Dispatch to-day says that a rumor was current yesterday that Sherman had reached and was destroying the railroad at Midway, ten miles west of Branchville. The Whig, however, says that the rumor was without foundation, as the tenor of official dispatches received at the War Department last evening renders it certain that such was not the case. On Saturday telegraphic communication was temporarily suspended with Augusta, but was resumed on yesterday.

The Whig remarks that a repulse of Sherman, who is now apparently presumptuous on account of his unimpeded march through Georgia, would work wonders in bringing the North to its senses. The Confederate generals and the men under their commands on his front are commissioners to whose pacific exertions the country may well look with anxious and prayerful solicitude.*

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 6, 1865—10.30 a. m.*
(Received 11.15 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington:

If Meagher has lost his men it will be well to send some officer from Washington to look after them and relieve Meagher. If he has lost his men it will afford a favorable pretext for doing what the service would have lost nothing by having done long ago—dismissing him.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 6, 1865—2.35 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

General Ord is assigned as requested.† Before your telegram to the Secretary, General Gillmore had been sent South to relieve General Foster. I think his familiarity with that part of the coast and the defenses of Charleston render him most suitable for that command.‡

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, February 6, 1865.

Colonel POE:

The Fifteenth Corps moves early to-morrow on Lowry's Station. Please see that the engineer regiment falls in with the leading division, provided with one wagon load of their tools for destroying road. After a breach is made I will give orders for parties to work right and left, and desire the engineers to confine their attention to the twist. The two leading divisions of the Fifteenth Corps will move without wagons, other than ambulances and a few with cartridges.

Yours, &c.,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

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* For part of dispatch here omitted, see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 414.
† To the Department of Virginia.
‡ For portion of dispatch here omitted, see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 415.

COWPEN FORD, *February 6, 1865—11 a. m.*

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: We have possession of east bank of the Little Salkehatchie and the enemy's rifle-pits, after a slight skirmish. Seven bridges are destroyed, but we can repair them in a short time, probably two hours.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

Maj. Gen. William T. SHERMAN:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say to you that upon further inspection he is satisfied that it will take much longer to repair the bridges across the Little Salkehatchie than stated above. It will be all we can do to get the command across to-day.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. E. STRONG,
Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, February 6, 1865.

General HOWARD:

The Fifteenth Corps is crossing Little Salkehatchie, and will move out to the forks of the road marked Duncanville. To-morrow early will move on the railroad about Bamberg. Move early on the same point. It has just begun to rain. Williams will be at this crossing, and I expect Kilpatrick to strike the road about 8 a. m. to-morrow about Blackville. All well.

SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cowpen Ford, S. C., February 6, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: The march to-day has been delayed on account of the bridges at this point. They were absolutely destroyed, every stringer being either burned or cut in two. The longest bridge was sixty-six feet in length. Total amount rebuilt, 262 feet. I have pushed but one division over, keeping the other two on this side. From the former reconnaissances have been pushed out to Lemon's Creek. It took us five hours to rebuild the bridges. Inclosed please find a copy of my order of march for to-morrow.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

P. S.—The bridges at Lemon's Creek and Swamp are reported destroyed, and some force, probably that which left here to-day, on the other side.

[Inclosure.]

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 33.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cowpen Ford, S. C., February 6, 1865.

The movement for to-morrow will commence at 7 a. m. The Fifteenth Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will march as rapidly as possible to Bamberg, pass the railroad, and take up a strong position and intrench at least two divisions. The Seventeenth Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will push to Midway, cross the railroad at that point, and intrench strongly, making a strong right flank. Department headquarters will follow the leading division of the Seventeenth Corps. The bridge train will follow the second division in the order of march. The trains to-morrow night will be closely and carefully parked. The pickets of the two corps must connect. A strong force of pioneers must be kept at the head of each column, so as to repair bridges and clear away obstructions with the greatest rapidity. All foraging parties will be kept well in hand, and all straggling completely repressed.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

LANE'S BRIDGE, *February 6, 1865—2.40* [*p. m.*].

General HOWARD:

At 1.30 o'clock we drove the enemy from his works on the other bank of Little Salkehatchie, and now have possession of the two roads, two miles beyond, leading to Bamberg and Graham's, one division occupying same. Will have all my command over the river to-night, but it will be late, as we have to finish a bridge some 100 feet long. Will take possession of the crossing over the next stream to-night.

Respectfully,

J. A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Five Miles from Bamberg, February 6, 1865.

General JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Corps:

GENERAL: You may make your orders and march to-morrow on Lowry's Station, South Carolina Railroad, and make a strong lodgment and break up the road. Inasmuch as the enemy must by this time have detected our plan, you should be prepared for battle. You know that the Seventeenth Corps is approaching Midway by the road from Rivers' Bridge and should now be within eight miles. You have only five miles to Bamberg and one to Lowry's. Williams is just behind you, and Kilpatrick is supposed to be at Barnwell and has orders to strike the railroad about Blackville and turn to Bamberg. Williams is ordered to move straight on Graham's Station unless he hears you engaged, when he will turn to your left flank. You had better march with two divisions, disencumbered of all wagons save a few with cartridges and the ambulances, and let your train follow to any point you

may select about Bamberg or Lowry's, to be parked. As soon as you reach the railroad set to work to destroy it effectually, viz, every rail must be twisted. Your advance should push out a mile or so beyond the railroad toward South Edisto, on the Cannon's Bridge road. If you hear Howard engaged lean toward Midway, but get the road broken anyhow. I will be with you, but want you to fight your own battles, as I am a non-combatant. The enemy ought to fight us, but I don't believe he will.

Yours, &c.,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Have the left-hand road at the church clear for Williams by 8 a. m.

S.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 9.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., February 6, 1865.

I. The troops of this division will march at 8 a. m. to-morrow, the 7th instant, in the following order, viz:

1. First Brigade Infantry, General Rice commanding, with one regiment thrown in rear of the battery.

2. Second Brigade Infantry, Colonel Adams commanding, who will direct the regiments of his command to march by the side of the ordnance and supply trains of the division, inclosing these trains if possible.

3. Trains as follows: First, ambulance; second, ordnance; third, supply train (the two latter to be moved within the Second Brigade Infantry, as herein directed); fourth, brigade trains in same order as brigades.

4. Third Brigade Infantry, Colonel Hurlbut commanding, who will keep the column well closed up, bringing forward all stragglers.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

LOUIS H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., February 6, 1865.

Col. F. J. HURLBUT, *Commanding Third Brigade:*

COLONEL: The road upon which the troops will move to-morrow will be the direct one to Hickory Hill. You will therefore countermarch your troops and trains, taking the left at the Four Corners, about a mile back.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

LOUIS H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 34.

HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Cowpen Ford, S. C., February 6, 1865.

The following are the orders for to-morrow:

1. Bvt. Maj. Gen. Giles A. Smith will have the advance, and will move forward on the direct Midway road at 7 a. m.

2. Maj. Gen. Joseph A. Mower, commanding First Division, will follow the Fourth Division, being prepared to move at 8 a. m.

3. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will follow the First Division, being prepared to move at 9 a. m.

4. The bridge train will follow the train of the First Division.

5. The trains of department headquarters and of these headquarters will follow the troops of the Fourth Division.

6. In addition to his pioneer corps, Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith will move near the head of his column two companies of the pioneer battalion serving with him.

7. Forage parties will be kept well together and all possible precautions taken to prevent straggling.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Millersville Post-Office, S. C., February 6, 1865.

Capt. C. CADLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Being instructed by General Howard, as I was about moving the division over, to reconnoiter well to the front on the Midway road and prevent the burning of any more bridges, I at once sent out the Twelfth Wisconsin (Colonel Proudfit) and Captain Munson, of my staff. They reached Lemon's Swamp, about five miles out, after dark. The four small bridges were already in flames, and the road through the swamp obstructed by felled trees. An observing force of the enemy appear to be posted beyond the swamp. The road between this and the swamp requires corduroying in several places. The Twelfth Wisconsin is returning to camp. It is said that there is a work on this side of the Edisto defending the railroad bridge. No other works on the railroad between the Edisto and Midway. General Hardee was in Augusta last Thursday.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. F. FORCE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Six Miles North of Robertsville, S. C., February 6, 1865—7 a. m.

Major-General DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that the road on this side of Robertsville is good. General Geary will get within a few miles of Lawtonville to-night. There are no supplies on this road, and it is doubtful whether there are any on roads to the left.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, } HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 6. } *Sister's Ferry, S. C., February 6, 1865.*

Movements for to-morrow, February 7:

General Carlin will march from Brighton, his present position, by the most direct route to Lawtonville.

General Baird will move from his present position to Brighton.

General Morgan will remain in his present position at Sister's Ferry until his trains are properly loaded. He will, at 6 a. m. to-morrow, relieve the battery of reserve artillery now in position on the bank of the river with the battery attached to his command.

Major Houghtaling, chief of artillery, will move his command for Brighton at 7 a. m. to-morrow, in rear of General Baird.

Colonel Moore will at once take up his pontoons and move his command in the rear of Major Houghtaling in the morning to Brighton.

Corps headquarters will be to-morrow night at Brighton.

All wagons not now loaded will remain and come forward with General Morgan's command.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Sister's Ferry, S. C., February 6, 1865.

Brig. Gen. W. P. CARLIN,
Commanding First Division, Fourteenth Army Corps:

The general commanding directs that you march at once, taking the direct road to Robertsville; there you will take the left-hand road toward Brighton, and encamp to-night at or near that point. From there it is the desire of the general commanding to advance in the general direction of Barnwell and Buford's Bridge. He desires you to obtain all the information possible in regard to the two roads from Brighton to those points with a view to deciding which it will be preferable for the main column to pursue. You will thoroughly repair the roads upon your line of march, and in case the pontoons should be required send back word immediately.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. McCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Little Salkehatchie River, S. C., February 6, 1865.

This command will march toward Graham's Station on the South Carolina Railroad, as follows: First Division at 7 a. m.; Third Division at 7.30 a. m. The two brigades of the First Division, with one brigade of the Third Division, will march unencumbered in the advance. The other two brigades of the Third Division will cover the whole corps train. The trains, which to-day marched in rear of the Fifteenth Corps, will rejoin their respective divisions. One battery of artillery will march in rear of the leading brigade, one in rear of the center one of the advanced brigades, one section in rear of the third of the advanced

brigades, and one section near the rear of the train. The wagons belonging to the batteries will march immediately in rear of the advanced infantry. This corps being the extreme left of the army makes it necessary that the trains should be kept well closed up, and the troops well in hand and ready for instant action.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 7.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Near Beech Branch, S. C., February 6, 1865.

This command will move to-morrow at 6.30 a. m. Order of brigades: Third, First, Second, Selfridge's.

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By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary:

W. T. FORBES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Fort Fisher, February 6, 1865.

Rear-Admiral D. D. PORTER,
Commanding North Atlantic Blockading Squadron:

ADMIRAL: The rebels at one time had the guns of Fort Caswell in casemates of wood to fire through sloping embrasures, but subsequently, doubting if these embrasures would stand navy fire, took the guns out of the main work and placed them on the covered way. The question whether guns en barbette or in embrasure are most serviceable and reliable is a very important one in our harbor defenses, and General R. Delafield, chief engineer, U. S. Army, is desirous of having it tested on the embrasures of Fort Caswell. If you can spare a vessel for several hours' practice I should be happy to accompany it and arrange with the commander the details of the experiment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet Brigadier-General, Chief Engineer.

CIRCULAR, No. 2.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 6, 1865.

Commissioned officers at Hilton Head and Beaufort, en route for Sherman's army, will forthwith report in person to Brig. Gen. Henry Prince, at Hilton Head, for orders.

By command of Maj. Gen. J. G. Foster:

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Pocotaligo, S. C., February 6, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN, U. S. Army:

GENERAL: The enemy have evacuated their works at Salkehatchie bridge. I am rebuilding the turnpike bridge, and will cross a column

to-morrow morning and move toward Ashepoo. I have also crossed at Combahee Ferry and occupy the causeway for about half a mile from the river. There is in the works there some artillery and some militia. We will drive them out to-morrow. The troops that have been occupying the works at Salkehatchie was a brigade of South Carolina veterans, who came from Richmond. They formerly belonged to Early's army; were in Richmond a few weeks; came here three weeks ago. They marched toward Charleston, on the dirt road. A pass from a deserter states that he will rejoin his company at Adams' Run, a point between the Ashepoo and the Edisto.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Pocotaligo, S. C., February 6, 1865.

Captain MESEREAU,
Chief of Artillery:

CAPTAIN: You will move with two Napoleons in rear of cavalry to-morrow morning at 8.30 o'clock on the Salkehatchie road, taking two days' rations and forage.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Pocotaligo, S. C., February 6, 1865.

The One hundred and second Regiment U. S. Colored Troops, and the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, under Colonel Hallowell, will move from camp to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock, taking two days' rations and sixty rounds of ammunition per man. The Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers will move down the railroad to the Salkehatchie bridge and cross. The One hundred and second U. S. Colored Troops will move down the Union road, on which our advance pickets are now stationed, to the railroad and cross the river.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Pocotaligo, S. C., February 6, 1865.

Maj. M. F. WEBSTER,
Commanding Battalion, Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry:

MAJOR: You will move with all your available men to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock, passing through the old Pocotaligo fort and down Salkehatchie road to the bridge across the river. You will take two days' rations and forage.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Morris Island, S. C., February 6, 1865.

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the South:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor respectfully to suggest that a small number of marine boat howitzers (Dahlgren) would be exceedingly valuable in this command. If this meets with the approval of the major-general commanding, and the howitzers can be obtained from the navy depot at Hilton Head, I would request that they be sent up here with the requisite supply of ammunition (shell and canister) as soon as possible.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Morris Island, February 6, 1865.

Lieut. Col. A. G. BENNETT,
Commanding, Morris Island, S. C.:

COLONEL: The section of Third New York Artillery will be held in readiness after dusk to-morrow evening at the dock for transportation across the inlet to Folly Island, S. C. They will take with them one wagon, three days' rations, and forage. They will proceed to the site of the former headquarters of General Gillmore, where they will camp and await further orders, taking the precaution to choose a spot where they cannot be perceived by the enemy's lookout on James Island. Lieutenant Quinn, commanding Fort Shaw, will designate a sergeant to be sent at an early hour to-morrow morning to Folly Island, where the indicated locality will be pointed out to him.

By order of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig:
J. W. DICKINSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Morris Island, S. C., February 6, 1865.

Colonel KOZLAY,
Commanding Post, Folly Island, S. C.:

COLONEL: You will comply with your orders relative to the landing of the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts as soon as practicable. Should Colonel Fox refuse to obey you you will immediately place him under arrest and give the command of the regiment to another officer.

By order of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig:
J. W. DICKINSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ANNAPOLIS, MD., *February 6, 1865—10.30 a. m.*
(Received 12.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Steamer New York getting under way with 1,500 men. There are 600 on steamer Ariel. All of Meagher's battalions have arrived,

except one that was frozen up at mouth of Kanawha River. That one is expected to arrive at Baltimore in a day or two. Shall the Ariel wait for them or sail at once as Meagher proposes? I have countermanded Meagher's orders for troops to wait for him at Beaufort.

ROBT. N. SCOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ANNAPOLIS, MD., *February 6, 1865—11 a. m.*
(Received 12 m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

I have just learned that 700 men in all of Twenty-third Corps have been turned over to provost-marshal at this point. It will be difficult to keep these men here. The barracks that they now occupy will be required for 1,000 exchanged prisoners who are expected here to-morrow morning. If the Ariel is to leave partially filled with men she can leave immediately. There is great uncertainty as to arrival of battalion alluded to this morning as being behind. General Meagher could give me no information last night.

ROBT. N. SCOTT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 6, 1865—1.30 p. m.*

Maj. R. N. SCOTT, *Annapolis, Md.:*

If not enough of General Meagher's men to fill up Ariel, put on the stragglers of the Twenty-third Corps, with orders to first land Meagher's men at Beaufort and then the men of Twenty-third Corps at Fort Fisher or Cape Fear River. See that the Ariel is supplied for the additional voyage.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

ANNAPOLIS, MD., *February 6, 1865.*
(Received 2.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

Enough stragglers are in to make 800 men on board steamer Ariel, and I have sent her off. The only transport left (the Glaucus) is loaded with forage, and it will take two or three days to unload her. There are no other troops here than those of Twenty-third Corps alluded to in former dispatch.

R. N. SCOTT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 6, 1865—4.28 p. m.*

Maj. R. N. SCOTT, *Annapolis, Md.:*

The men and officers of the Twenty-third Corps will join the divisions of the corps here. The men of Meagher's command as they arrive will go into barracks there and await transportation. You can return by Baltimore.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, *February 7, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The Richmond Dispatch to-day says:

We have no official intelligence of importance from South Carolina. The reports of the flanking of our forces at Branchville and the capture of that place by Sherman are contradicted by official advices.*

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY IN THE FIELD,
Lowry's Station, S. C., February 7, 1865.

Admiral J. A. DAHLGREN,
Off Charleston, S. C.:

We are on the South Carolina road, at Midway, and will break fifty miles, from Edisto toward Augusta, and then cross toward Columbia. Weather is bad and country full of water. This 'cause may force me to turn against Charleston. I have ordered Foster to move Hatch up to the Edisto, about Jacksonborough and Willstown. Also to make that lodgment about Bull's Bay. Watch Charleston close. I think Davis will order it to be abandoned, lest he lose its garrison as well as guns. We are all well and the enemy retreats before us. Send word to New Berne that you have heard from me, and the probabilities are that high waters may force me to the coast before I reach North Carolina, but to keep Wilmington busy.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Lowry's, February 7, 1865.

General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing, Midway:

GENERAL: We are on the road here and will get to work at once westward. Be careful to instruct each rail to be twisted, even if it takes more time. I want you, if possible, to force the enemy to burn his own bridge across Edisto at the railroad crossing, also at Walker's Bridge. From here we will move westward some fifty miles. Dispose of your trains accordingly.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Midway, S. C., February 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Your note is just received. General Blair sent a reconnaissance to Cannon's Bridge this evening, and found that the enemy had destroyed the larger and one of the smaller bridges, and withdrawn

* For portion of dispatch here omitted, see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 446.

to the other side of the river. The other smaller bridge can be destroyed at any time. A reconnaissance was also sent to the railroad bridge, but it has not been heard from. It is understood, however, that the enemy has had it prepared to be destroyed for several days past. At daylight to-morrow morning I will send a force to Walker's Bridge. Prisoners from S. D. Lee's corps say that Hood went through to Richmond on a train. I write you before hearing from the other reconnaissance, thinking that you might wish to modify General Logan's order to move on Cannon's Bridge.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Midway, S. C., February 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: General Blair's head of column reached here about 2 p. m. He found three large bridges destroyed and the roads made horrible by the rain, so that it will be difficult to get up the trains, though the obstructions have been removed, the bridges rebuilt, and the troops are getting through. I have two prisoners from Palmer's brigade, Stevenson's division, Lee's corps. They don't know whether their whole division is through to Augusta or not. A part of it is at Branchville. Please open communication by telegraph, as the wires are in order. A prisoner from Hampton's command wants to see you, and I send him up. Your dispatch is just translated. I will comply with your request. How much time can you afford me to do the work in this vicinity before moving?

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Lowry's, February 7, 1865.

General HOWARD:

I have just received your note. We will stay here all day to-morrow and until I can get all the army up within ordering distance. Williams is at Graham's, so we have full possession of the road for fifteen miles. Break to the river good and burn the bridge, if possible. Its guard is small; only a part of Lee's corps has come; we have divided the enemy. I do not propose to cross Edisto until we are up abreast of Blackville and White Pond or Windsor. Put in a good day's work to-morrow and have an inspector-general to see that every rail is bent around a post or is twisted by the process a la Poe.

Logan will maneuver on Cannon's Bridge and Williams will on Binnaker's. I want all these broken or burned good.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

GRAHAM'S, S. C.,
February 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. O. O. HOWARD, U. S. Army,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to propose that if the troops of your army be required to discontinue burning the houses of our citizens I will discontinue burning cotton. As an earnest of the good faith in which my proposition is tendered I leave at this place about 300 bales cotton unburned, worth, in New York, over a quarter of a million, and in our currency one million and a half. I trust my having commenced will cause you to use your influence to insure the acceptance of the proposition by your whole army. I trust that you will not deem it improper for me to ask that you will require the troops under your command to discontinue the wanton destruction of property not necessary for their sustenance.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General, C. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Bamberg, S. C., February 7, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Department and Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that I effected a lodgment on the railroad at 9.30 a. m.; that I have four brigades in camp, covering the Cannon's Bridge road and the approaches to the Edisto River, with two brigades tearing up railroad. The other division is moving into camp, covering the trains.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Midway, S. C., February 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding is very much pleased that you did your work so quickly to-day. General Blair had three large bridges to build, very bad obstructions to clear away, and will have at least a third of the way to corduroy. The enemy seem to have a little force from Virginia, a little from Hood, almost a division, but his troops do not seem to be concentrated, being at Columbia, Branchville, Augusta, and probably still at Charleston. A great many barricades were made across the road, but they were all abandoned before our approach.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
CHIEF ENGINEER'S OFFICE,
Lowry's, S. C., February 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps, Lowry's:

GENERAL: In order that all our working forces may be directed to the best advantange in destroying railroads, I would respectfully request you to order as follows to the troops under your command, viz, that "the infantry details shall tear up the track and pile the superstructure after this manner: Three ties in the roadbed as they lie, one tie across these at each end, at right angles; six ties crosswise with these (right angles) with intervals to allow their being fired; then the iron laid on top, parallel with the railroad, and kindling wood and surplus ties on top of all. The piles to be fired by the infantry details, and the heated iron will then be twisted by the engineer troops. The piles should be about thirty-five feet apart." By systematizing in this way the engineer regiment can twist all the iron that can be taken up by your corps.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. M. POE,
Brevet Colonel and Chief Engineer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 38. } HDQRS. FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Bamberg, S. C., February 7, 1865.

* * * * * * *

III. The interests of the service require that hereafter all flour or meal obtained from the country by forage or other details should be turned in to the division commissaries, and by them regularly issued as a part of the ration. Division commanders are charged with the promulgation and enforcement of this order.

IV. Instances of pillaging have come to the attention of the general commanding. The practice is disgraceful in the extreme. No man will be permitted to enter an occupied dwelling house or molest in any way the inhabitants of the country, and particularly are they forbidden from wantonly taking the few rags belonging to the poor negroes, who have in so many instances befriended our soldiers on their escape from rebel prisons. This order will be read to every regiment, battery, and detachment in the command, and every man found disobeying the same will be arrested and punished in such manner as may seem best to his division commander, who will please report the fact of the arrest and punishment after both shall have been accomplished.

* * * * * * *

By order of Maj. Gen. John A. Logan:

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Lowry's, February 7, 1865.

Major-General HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: You will please as soon as practicable after the receipt of this have one of your brigades make a reconnaissance as far as Can-

non's Bridge, if practicable, the object being to discover whether the bridge is burned or not, what force of the enemy is there, and in what position, and how much work will be necessary to effect a crossing. Captain Klostermann, corps engineer officer, will accompany the brigade. Your brigade, which is now on the railroad, can be withdrawn and ordered to camp. You will please make a report of the reconnaissance promptly, if possible.

By command of Major-General Logan:

L. E. YORKE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Bamberg, S. C., February 7, 1865.

Brig. Gen. JOHN M. OLIVER,
Comdg. Third Brigade, Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: In accordance with a request from Major-General Howard, the general commanding desires you to destroy a mile and a half of railroad from Bamberg toward Midway and the Edisto River.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Hickory Hill, S. C., February 7, 1865.

[General SHERMAN:]

DEAR GENERAL: I know not how anxious you may be to have me with you, but I assure you not more so than I am. Our roads have proven execrable. I worked all one day on a swamp about three and a half miles long. If I can get this bridge done to-day I will move heaven and earth to join you day after to-morrow, if you are not too far from me. Please let me know of your whereabouts as soon as practicable after the reception of this. Slocum is to-day about Duck Branch Post-Office with Geary; Davis is—God knows where, for the roads are such I have no doubt he is nearer the infernal regions than he ever was before. I hope you have a few green leaves of all the fresh wreaths you are winning left for

Devotedly, yours,

CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Lowry's, February 7, 1865.

General CORSE:

DEAR GENERAL: We are on the railroad and the enemy has retreated across the Edisto. After crossing the Little Salkehatchie you had better send forward an officer to report, as you will save distance by moving to the northwest, as I propose breaking up a wide gap in this road from Edisto toward Augusta. This column meets no resistance worth mentioning. The Seventeenth Corps, or Mower's

division, had a smart fight to secure Rivers' Bridge across Big Salkehatchie and whipped the enemy handsomely. Roads are bad and water abundant, above, below, and all around.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 10.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., February 7, 1865.

The troops of this division will march at 7 a. m. to-morrow, the 8th instant, in the following order, on the road to Rivers' Bridge, viz: First. Lieutenant-Colonel Hughes, commanding Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry, as an advance. Second. Second Brigade Infantry, Colonel Adams commanding, with one regiment thrown in rear of Battery H, First Missouri Artillery, which will invariably move within the advance brigade. Third. Third Brigade Infantry, Colonel Hurlbut commanding, who will extend his regiments to inclose as nearly as possible the ordnance and supply trains, the troops marching by the side of same. Fourth. Trains in same order as to-day, viz: 1st, ambulance; 2d, ordnance; 3d, supply train; 4th, brigade trains in the same order as brigades. Fifth. First Brigade Infantry, General Rice commanding. The troops and trains will be prompt, in order that there may be no delay in moving out on the road at the hour designated.

Commanding officers will give their personal attention to preventing all soldiers from leaving their commands or foraging, except they be properly detailed, as heretofore directed.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Midway, S. C., February 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that General Logan is now engaged destroying the railroad. He has been instructed to destroy it as far down as half way between this place and Bamberg. He wishes you to commence at as early an hour as possible to-morrow morning and destroy it, twisting every rail from the point to which General Logan will come down to the bridge over the Edisto.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 35.

HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Midway, S. C., February 7, 1865.

The following are the orders for to-morrow:

1. Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will move one brigade and one section of artillery of his command at daylight to-morrow morning toward the railroad bridge on the Edisto

River, and if the bridge is not already burned he will make such demonstrations as will cause the enemy to destroy it, or, if practicable, destroy it himself. He will then destroy the railroad from the bridge, or as near as practicable to it, to a point three miles and a half this side.

2. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will move forward the brigade of his command at Little Salkehatchie River at daylight to-morrow morning and encamp at the saw-mill half a mile south of this point, where two brigades of General Mower's command are now encamped.

3. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will cause one brigade of his command to be moved to this point from the saw-mill at 7 a. m. to-morrow and set at work destroying the railroad, commencing at the depot and working to a point one mile and a half west of here. As soon as the brigade of the Third Division has reached the saw-mill he will move the brigade remaining there to this point, and cause it to destroy from the depot east a distance of two miles.

4. The destruction of the road must be complete. Every tie must be burned and every rail twisted.

General Sherman intends to have the road inspected by the inspector-general's department after the work is done.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Midway, S. C., February 7, 1865.

Capt. C. CADLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report that, in pursuance of orders from Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair, the Eleventh Iowa Infantry was ordered to the railroad bridge, and Lieutenant-Colonel Beach commanding reports as follows:

He moved his regiment to the bridge, exchanged a few shots with the enemy, who immediately fired the bridge. He then returned to camp.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GILES A. SMITH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
No. —. } *Midway, S. C., February 7, 1865.*

In pursuance of orders received from corps headquarters, the Third Brigade, Brig. Gen. W. W. Belknap commanding, and one section of First Minnesota Battery will move at daylight to-morrow morning toward the railroad bridge on the Edisto River, and if the bridge is not already burned he will make such demonstrations as will cause the enemy to destroy it, or, if practicable, destroy it himself. He will then thoroughly destroy the railroad three miles and a half this side, burning every tie and twisting every rail. Further orders will be furnished him before the completion of the work.

GILES A. SMITH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FOURTH DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
February 7, 1865.

In pursuance of the within order, this command will move at 7 a. m. to-morrow. The pickets of the Sixteenth Iowa will remain where they are until further orders.

By order of Brigadier-General Belknap:

O. D. KINSMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Lowry's, February 7, 1865.

General SLOCUM,
On the Road:

GENERAL: We are on the railroad and the enemy has retreated across the Edisto. I propose to break up road westward, so you may let Geary join Williams about Graham's, and let Davis take any road you may prefer to the left to reach the neighborhood of Blackville. You may send that corps (Fourteenth) through Barnwell for the sake of forage. We find plenty, but I fear we leave little behind us. Weather is villainous, but we can't help it and must do the best we can. Send back to Coosawhatchie fort, or any other point you may think best, the inclosed cipher messages to General Foster and Admiral Dahlgren.* Send by several messengers and by secure roads.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 7. } HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Brighton, S. C., February 7, 1865.

The corps will move upon the Salkehatchie River as follows:

General Carlin will remain in his present position at or near Lawtonville until he is joined by the other trains of the command under the charge of Captain Remington, the reserve artillery and ammunition trains under Major Houghtaling, and pontoon train under Lieutenant-Colonel Moore. He will then take charge of the entire train of the corps, and at once move by the most direct and practicable roads, via Duck Branch Post-Office and Angley's Post-Office, upon Buford's Bridge across the Salkehatchie River, which point he will endeavor to reach as soon as practicable. There he will receive further orders.

General Baird, sending his trains to report to General Carlin, will march to-morrow a. m. with two companies of the pontoniers (which will be sent to report to him by Colonel Moore) and a battery of artillery, by the most direct road to Ingram's, near which point he will encamp to-morrow night. He will thoroughly repair the roads as he passes over them.

General Morgan will march early to-morrow a. m. from his present position at Sister's Ferry, via this point, and here detaching his trains, to report to General Carlin, will follow General Baird.

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*See Sherman to Dahlgren, p. 328, and Sherman to Foster, p. 338.

Major Houghtaling, detaching one battery with orders to report to General Baird, will move the remainder of his command at 7 a. m. to-morrow, and will report to General Carlin at Lawtonville.

Corps headquarters will be with the Second and Third Divisions until a junction is effected.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 7, 1865.

Lieut. Col. A. C. McCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to inform General Davis that I shall take the right-hand road from this to Lawtonville in consequence of the rain. The streams on the left-hand road are more numerous than on the right-hand road, but they are both good roads so far as I can learn. Forage is more abundant on the left-hand road. Ordinarily I would prefer the left-hand or Augusta road, and it would probably be the best for the main column.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. CARLIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Brighton, S. C., February 7, 1865—4.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. J. D. MORGAN,
Commanding Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you move forward from the ferry to this point, on the left-hand or direct road (the road taken by him this afternoon). It is better than the other road, but will need a good deal of working before your trains can pass over rapidly. The worst part of the road is about two miles from the ferry and about half a mile in length. The bearer will remain with you and give you more definite information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. McCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Hanberry Cross-Roads, February 7, 1865—2 p. m.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Army of Georgia:

GENERAL: My advance is within two miles of the railroad. My column is badly stretched out, owing to the swollen condition of the streams. I have three brigades in hand and shall move on the railroad at once, and shall bring up my whole command to that point to-night. I am satisfied from the report of prisoners that there is nothing but one brigade of cavalry (perhaps more) in my front. They are withdrawing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Graham's Station, S. C., February 7, 1865.

This command will spend the day to-morrow destroying the railroad. The troops of the First Division will move at 7 a. m. to Graham's Station, and commence the destruction of the road there, working west. The Third Division will commence at this point, and work toward Graham's Station. The work must be thoroughly done; each rail so destroyed that it will be impossible to use it again. The trains will be left at this point, and General Ward will detail two regiments to remain with them as guards. Corps headquarters will be at Graham's Station to-morrow.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Lowry's Station, February 7, 1865.

General GEARY:

We are on the railroad here. Williams took the road at Duncanville for Graham's. Our maps are right, and you will find no difficulty in following him. It is the straight or left-hand road, about two miles out from Little Salkehatchie. Howard is at Midway and the Edisto. Enemy has retreated across the Edisto.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Near Coosawhatchie Swamp, February 7, 1865.

Brevet Major-General GEARY,
Commanding Second Division, Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you start your command to-morrow morning by at least 6 o'clock, and that you reach and cross Buford's Bridge to-morrow if possible. He has information that General Sherman has reached a point where he cannot do without us, and is awaiting our arrival.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY COMMAND,
Blackville, S. C., February 7, 1865—2 p. m.

[Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding:]

GENERAL: I crossed Salkehatchie at 2 p. m. yesterday with little opposition. We drove a rebel cavalry brigade out of and occupied this place at 1 p. m. to-day. Wheeler was near Graham's last night. I learn now that a large portion of his force is between me and the Edisto. I will remain here until morning, destroying track, and then

march to Graham's or direct on Duncanville. At any moment you desire I can drive Wheeler into the Edisto, and I think save any bridge you may name. Yesterday about 200 rebels made an effort to hold the Salkehatchie till the bridge was burnt, but the Ninety-second Illinois dismounted, charged over the bridge, all on fire, drove off the rebels, and saved the bridge. I only mention this to show you the spirit of my men.

Very respectfully,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Lowry's Station,
South Carolina Railroad, February 7, 1865.

General KILPATRICK,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Your note of 2 p. m. is received. We are all on the road and will break road all to-morrow, and then move up toward Augusta. You can remain where you are and try and secure the bridge at the head of Young's Island. I will pass the Edisto above that point and as high as Guignard's Bridge. Make a good break whilst you are about it. If you feel confident you may move up the road, making occasional breaks, and meet us on your return about White Pond in two days after to morrow. I will order Davis' corps to come round through Barnwell to White Pond or Windsor. Don't risk much, but keep your horses and men well in hand.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY IN THE FIELD,
Lowry's Station, February 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. G. FOSTER,
Hilton Head:

We are on the railroad at Midway; weather bad, waters high, and roads bad. These may force me to turn against Charleston before crossing the Santee. Enemy have retreated east and north across the Edisto. We will break up fifty miles of this road toward Augusta and then move over toward Columbia. Watch Charleston close and threaten at Bull's Bay. Hatch's force should now get across to the Edisto about Jacksonborough and Willstown. Slocum is not yet up.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 14. HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 7, 1865.

The major-general commanding being compelled by wounds to relinquish for the present the command of the department, takes this opportunity to express to the officers and men of the Coast Division,

under Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, his approbation of their good conduct during the operations on the line of the Charleston and Savannah Railroad since November last.

At the battle of Honey Hill, on November 30, although unsuccessful in the attempt to drive the enemy from his forts, the division still maintained the fight with unwavering steadiness during the day, and retired from the field after nightfall in good order and unpursued. Their losses attest alike their courage and discipline.

At Deveaux's Neck, near the Coosawhatchie turnpike, on December 6, the advance, in number much inferior to the opposing force, met the rebels in an open field, and drove them from the ground, captured one flag, forced them to seek safety in flight, leaving their dead and wounded in our hands, and thus occupied a position from which the railroad was under the easy fire of our guns.

On December 9 the skirmish line forced its way to within a few yards of the railroad and the forts which guarded it, remaining there under a most galling fire until an opening had been cut through the woods between our batteries and the road, and thus perfected the work so gallantly begun upon the 6th.

The division has obeyed all orders promptly and cheerfully, and since its co-operative movements with General Sherman's army has vigilantly watched the enemy at its front, has promptly seized each fortified position upon the first indication of a proposed withdrawal on the part of the rebels, and has thus inspired the commanding general with the belief that it will continue to do faithfully and well the work allotted to it in the great campaign which is being prosecuted in South Carolina.

To Brigadier-Generals Hatch and Potter, who have commanded this force, and to all the gallant officers and men under them, the major-general commanding tenders his thanks for the past and his earnest wishes for their continued success.

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Pocotaligo, S. C., February 7, 1865.

Col. N. HAUGHTON,
Twenty-fifth Ohio Volunteers:

COLONEL: We have advanced to-day two miles and a half or three miles on the railroad, and a little farther on the turnpike, and intrenched for the night, but understanding that there are some veteran troops in front of us, I have concluded that we need the Twenty-fifth Ohio. If at daybreak the enemy have not evacuated the works in your front, move by the shortest route to the Salkehatchie bridge, where you will receive orders from me. If the enemy have evacuated at that hour follow them up cautiously, and communicate the information to me at Pocotaligo. Direct the One hundred and seventh Ohio to move by the shortest road, which will be up the river from the church to the intrenchments at the railroad depot.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Pocotaligo, S. C., February 7, 1865.

Col. W. W. MARPLE,
Thirty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops:

COLONEL: By direction of the brigadier-general commanding, you will move to-night, leaving two companies in your present camp. At daybreak to-morrow morning you will relieve the Twenty-fifth Ohio, which has other orders. You will keep your pickets well advanced, and if the enemy evacuate the forts in your front you will occupy them immediately, putting their present rear in condition of defense. You will communicate to these headquarters at least three times in each twenty-four hours. The four mounted orderlies will be distributed, two at your headquarters and two at Garden's Corners, for use of telegraph.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Morris Island, S. C., February 7, 1865.

Col. A. S. HARTWELL,
Commanding Brigade U. S. Forces:

COLONEL: In accordance with verbal instructions received from the major-general commanding the department, your brigade will be subject to the orders of the commanding officer of this district during the contemplated movement now on foot.

By order of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig:
J. W. DICKINSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Morris Island, S. C., February 7, 1865.

Col. A. S. HARTWELL,
Commanding Brigade U. S. Forces, Folly Island, S. C.:

COLONEL: The detachment of engineers at this post has been ordered to report to you this evening after dark. They will be attached to your command for the purpose of constructing the bridge on the right of Cole's Island.

By order of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig:
J. W. DICKINSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,
Tallahassee, February 7, 1865.

Brig. Gen. E. P. SCAMMON, or
OFFICER COMMANDING U. S. FORCES,
Jacksonville, Fla.:

GENERAL: I am informed that on the 1st instant Lieut. Col. A. H. McCormick of the C. S. service, went to your lines near Jacksonville, under flag of truce, and met an officer of the U. S. service also under

flag of truce. The U. S. officer not feeling authorized to accord to the proposition made to him by Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick informed him that he would refer the matter to you, and the two officers agreed to meet the next day at Price's, near Cedar Creek.

It was mutually agreed between the two officers that Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick should encamp that night beyond our picket-line, at a place known as the White House. The next day he met the U. S. officer, agreeably to appointment, at Price's, and after transacting the business on which they met, the U. S. officer informed Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick that about 7 p. m. on the day before (the 1st) a party of U. S. troops had captured two of our scouts, Privates Massey and Beckham, at Turknett's Point very near the White House. As this capture was made pending the flag of truce, and in the immediate vicinity of Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick's camp, I must suppose it was made without your authority, and was unauthorized and unjustifiable under the circumstances. I have, therefore, to request that you will cause the two men, Massey and Beckham, to be returned to Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick. I will add that in May last, whilst a flag of truce was pending on the Baldwin road, a party of our troops captured your pickets, to the eastward, on the King's road. As soon as the circumstances came to the knowledge of the C. S. officer commanding in that vicinity the men captured were promptly returned to their command within the lines of the U. S. forces. And more recently, when I was in command at Charleston, a corporal and private of the U. S. Army were captured near Port Royal under circumstances which, in my opinion, rendered the capture unjustifiable. I promptly returned them to their command without waiting for any representation of the case by the U. S. commander in that quarter.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., February 7, 1865.

General M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General U. S. Army, Washington:

A few days since, by the breaking down of two of our small steamers and the sinking of another while on an expedition up the Chowan River, I found there was not a single steamer that could be used for the ordinary work in this harbor. A small steamer called the Ulysses was lying in the harbor at Beaufort, and as we were very much in need of her I authorized her charter at the usual Government rates. This was at the time a positive necessity. The recent movements of General Sherman and the orders received from him have changed the face of matters here very much, and it is probable that our transportation of all kinds will have to be materially increased. My instructions are to prepare to forward supplies for 70,000 men and 40,000 animals. These instructions are confidential to me. In view of all this I hope you will consider it for the best interest of the service to confirm the contract with the Ulysses, and to empower me to secure such transportation as the exigencies of the service may call for from time to time. I am obliged at such a time as this to communicate with you direct, as up to this time I have no regular communication with either General Sherman or General Foster. A railroad construction party of 1,200 men,

under command of Colonel Wright, has just arrived. Another party of the same arrived last week from the North. These last were 350. The former command came from General Sherman's army.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

ANNAPOLIS, *February 7, 1865.*
(Received 12.35 p. m.)

Colonel KELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I arrived here an hour after Brigadier-General Meagher sailed with his troops. I was under orders to report to him. Shall I wait for the arrival of rest of the Provisional Division, or go to some other point for transportation?

S. P. CARTER,
Brigadier-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 7, 1865—3.40 p. m.*

Brig. Gen. S. P. CARTER,
Annapolis, Md.:

The chief of staff directs that you remain at Annapolis in charge of troops of the Provisional Division which may arrive there, seeing them properly provided for until transportation is furnished, and will then report to General Meagher, at New Berne, via Beaufort.

J. C. KELTON,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, February 8, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps, Confederate Army:

GENERAL: Yours addressed to General Howard is received by me.* I hope you will burn all cotton and save us the trouble. We don't want it, and it has proven a curse to our country. All you don't burn I will. As to private houses occupied by peaceful families, my orders are not to molest or disturb them, and I think my orders are obeyed. Vacant houses being of no use to anybody, I care little about, as the owners have thought them of no use to themselves. I don't want them destroyed, but do not take much care to preserve them.

I am, with respect, yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 18. WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, February 8, 1865.*

Hospital transports and hospital boats, after being properly assigned as such, will be exclusively under the control of the Medical Depart-

* See Wheeler to Howard, February 7, p. 330.

ment, and will not be diverted from their special purposes by orders of local or department commanders, or of officers of other staff departments.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 25. } HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI, *In the Field, Lowry's, February 8, 1865.*

The next movement will be against the railroad at any point between Orangeburg and the Congaree, as near Orangeburg as possible.

I. The Right Wing is charged with the destruction of the South Carolina Railroad from and including the Edisto bridge to Blackville, and the Left Wing with the engineer regiment and the cavalry will destroy from Blackville west as far as possible.

II. Major-General Howard will move the Seventeenth Corps by the State road to Binnaker's and Holman's Bridges, feign at one and cross at the other, and move on Orangeburg.

The Fifteenth Corps will move up the railroad to a point about four miles west of Graham's Station, and after having finished the destruction of the railroad to Blackville will cross the Edisto by Holman's Bridge or the head of Young's Island and move in support of the Seventeenth Corps.

III. The Twentieth Corps will move to Blackville and continue the destruction of the railroad westward, and the Fourteenth Corps will come up on the road about White Pond or Williston and as soon as the destruction of the road is complete will cross the Edisto at the head of Young's Island or at Guignard's Bridge, and push out to the Orangeburg and Edgefield road, ready to move on Orangeburg or Columbia, according to developments.

IV. The cavalry will continue to act in concert with the Left Wing, will burn the railroad as far west as possible, and cross the Edisto to the Edgefield road at the same time with the Left Wing. All troops will lean toward Orangeburg until it is known that the Right Wing has made a secure lodgment at or near Orangeburg.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, February 8, 1865.

General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: I would like to hear from the Edisto bridge. It is very important that it be destroyed by the enemy, else by ourselves. Better send word back to any wagons that have followed your track to join you via Graham's, crossing the Salkehatchie at Buford's. I sent a courier back last night to Corse and Slocum, but have not heard of them to-day. Kilpatrick will start from Blackville to-morrow for Aiken to break road as near Augusta as possible.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Midway, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Captain Henley, of General Blair's staff, who conducted a reconnaissance to Walker's or Valley Bridge, has just returned. He drove in the rebel pickets to their bridge-head and forced them to abandon it and cross the river. The rebels then fired the bridge, already prepared for burning, and opened on him with artillery. He says they have good works on the other side, and at least a section of artillery. He saw a force that he estimated at the strength of two regiments. This bank of the river is swampy, with a single causeway approaching the bridge. The reconnaissance late last evening by a regiment of infantry caused the rebels to burn the railroad bridge, so that the bridges across the Edisto are all destroyed in this vicinity. General Blair has nearly completed the destruction of that part of the railroad assigned to his command. General Logan reports that his work is done, and well done. The road is now destroyed from Graham's to the Edisto, including the railroad bridge. I believe the distance is twelve miles. A negro, who came from Branchville last night, says there were only about forty soldiers there; that the rebels were being transported toward Columbia on the cars, and that some few had been sent toward Charleston.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 34.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Midway, S. C., February 8, 1865.

I. The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will move as follows, commencing to-morrow: One division by the most direct route across Sikes' Creek to cross-roads nearest to Holman's Bridge. The division will take up a strong position here and push forward a reconnaissance to Holman's Bridge; hold this point as an outpost till the arrival of the rest of the corps. The other two divisions will move via Graham's by the road south of the railroad to the Barnwell and Orangeburg road; remain at that point until they have destroyed the railroad between Graham's and Blackville, then move on and join the leading division.

II. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Major-General Blair commanding, will move by the most direct route, starting at 8 a. m. to-morrow, to Binnaker's Bridge; secure a lodgment on the other side of the Edisto and lay the bridge preparatory to moving forward. The bridge train and department headquarters will follow the leading division of the Seventeenth Army Corps. Headquarters will move to-night at the point easiest of access between Holman's and Binnaker's Bridges.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Lowry's Station, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Major-General LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The general-in-chief desires that you will make a reconnaissance to Cannon's Bridge, ascertaining thereby the nature and condition of the crossing at that place.

I am, general, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Bamberg, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM B. HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general requests that you will hold one brigade of your command in readiness to move on a reconnaissance in the direction of Cannon's Bridge, subject to further orders; men to carry one day's rations and forty rounds of ammunition.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
Bamberg, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Capt. GORDON LOFLAND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, 2d Div., 15th Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to the order of General Hazen, I marched my brigade this afternoon to Cannon's Bridge on the Edisto River; I found no enemy on this side of the river, but found him in works on the north bank. At the point where the works are, and for a long distance both below and above the bridge, there is a swamp about 600 yards wide on the south side of the river. I threw forward a line of skirmishers through the swamp to the main stream and found that [the] bridge had been burned, that there was a line of works along the bank of the river several hundred yards in length with an embrasure in it, covering the road; the works seemed to be well manned; the men could be seen and heard all along them. I think that a crossing might be effected here without very much difficulty, as the main stream does not seem to be very large; the distance from this camp to the bridge is about five miles; the road is a very bad one; I believe that one-fourth of it is covered with water. After exchanging some shots with the enemy, having learned all that could be learned about his position and strength without making a positive attack, I withdrew my line and returned to camp.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. S. JONES,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Bamberg, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Brevet Major-General CORSE,
Commanding Fourth Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the general commanding to request you to move your division along the direct road, via Angley's Post-Office, Buford's Bridge, the crossing of the Little Salkehatchie at Springtown Meeting House, and the Little Salkehatchie River road, to the point of intersection of that road with the Barnwell and Orangeburg road, just south of the South Carolina Railroad. Corps headquarters will be to-morrow night at that point, and the whole command will move the next day to the Edisto River, with a view to crossing. Should you not overtake the rest of the corps at the river, please cross at such point as we may have crossed and join the general commanding with your division as soon as possible.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 11.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., February 8, 1865.

I. The troops of this division will march to-morrow, the 9th instant, as follows, viz:

First. Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry, Colonel Hughes, as an advance.

Second. Third Brigade Infantry at 7 a. m. with one regiment in rear of battery and one regiment with tool wagon, to be thrown forward at 6 a. m., if possible, as far as Cowpen Branch, to repair roads at this point sufficient to pass teams, when it will move on to Rivers' Bridge, halting there until the column shall have come up.

Third. First Brigade Infantry at 6 a. m. with its regiments marching by the side of the division ordnance and supply trains, extending so as to invest them as much as possible.

Fourth. Trains at 6 a. m. as follows: First, train of Third Brigade; second, ambulances; third, trains of Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry and Seventeenth Army Corps; fourth, ordnance and supply trains; fifth, trains of the First and Second Brigades.

Fifth. Second Brigade Infantry, which will march as soon as the trains shall have passed, forming the rear of the column.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:
L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Midway, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR, *Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:*

GENERAL: Inclosed I send you a copy of General Sherman's order of march.* The general suggests that, although the time of moving is not indicated, you make preparations to move at 7 a. m. to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See p. 343.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 36. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Midway, S. C., February 8, 1865.

* * * * * * *

VI. The following are the orders for the movement to-morrow:

1. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will have the advance, and will move his command forward at 7 a. m. on the Augusta road.

2. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will follow the First Division, moving forward from his present position at 8 a. m.

3. Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will follow the Third Division, being prepared to move at 9 a. m.

4. The train of department headquarters and of these headquarters will follow the troops of the First Division.

5. The bridge train will move next after the train of the Third Division.

* * * * * * *

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Midway, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps, Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: I send you an escaped prisoner who has some information that may be of importance. If what he states is true I think we might be able to capture some of the heavy artillery of the enemy.

I remain, general, with much respect, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. MOWER,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Midway, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. SMITH,
Commanding Fourth Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you withdraw the two regiments of your command now on the railroad and place them in the position assigned last night in your line. The First Division is waiting for their movement in order to take the line assigned them.

Very respectfully,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Midway, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Brig. Gen. W. W. BELKNAP,
Commanding Third Brigade:

In compliance with the within order you will bring the Eleventh Iowa and the Thirty-second Illinois up and place them in the position assigned last night.

By order of Brig. Gen. G. A. Smith:

AD. WARE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Nine Miles North of Brighton, February 8, 1865.

Captain DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Note received. Will push to Barnwell as directed. Baird crossing Dry Gall Creek. Carlin in charge of trains, &c., at Lawtonville. Morgan left Sister's Ferry this morning. Was delayed by non-arrival of provisions. Will make twenty miles with whole corps to-morrow. Advance will be in the vicinity of Erwinton or Allendale Post-Office. Roads almost impassable yesterday, but improving rapidly to-day.

Very respectfully,

JEF. C. DAVIS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Six Miles North of Brighton, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Brig. Gen. J. D. MORGAN,
Commanding Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you push on at daylight in the morning by this road (the road to Ingram's), with all your trains, instead of sending them to report to General Carlin. This road is splendid so far.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, &c.,

A. C. McCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Lowry's Station, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Brevet Major-General WILLIAMS,
Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Sherman to say he desires you to place your entire command at Graham's, and use all possible force in the destruction of the railroad, doing the work thoroughly by twisting rails and burning ties. Accomplish as much of this, working toward Augusta, as you can. Hold your command in readiness to move to Blackville to-morrow, awaiting further orders therefor.

I am, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Communicate with General Geary and get him up if possible.

L. M. D.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Graham's Station, February 8, 1865.

Major DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I inclose herewith a note* from General Wheeler to General Howard, which the lady delivering it said was to be opened by the first general officer who came up; General Jackson therefore opened it.

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* See Wheeler to Howard, February 7, p. 330.

I am burning and destroying railroad track from the road crossing one mile and a half east of this point (where my advance struck the railroad west), and shall do all I can to-day. My headquarters will be here. I find over 350 bales of cotton here.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Lowry's Station, S. C., February 8, 1865.

General A. S. WILLIAMS,
Graham's:

GENERAL: Yours of this date is received. Burn all cotton. The Confederate Congress has appropriated all cotton to its own use. It is the only cash article left to the enemy. I send you a letter * to Wheeler, in answer to his, which you can leave with the lady to be sent to Wheeler as she best can. Destroy all the railroad and its attachments, tanks, sheds, sewers, everything that facilitates its use. I will send you orders for to-morrow, which amount to moving up to Blackville. If you hear of Geary to-day in reach, turn him at once to Blackville. Slocum should move the Fourteenth Corps toward Williston. I think the Left Wing will cross the Edisto at about Guignard's and Pine Log Bridges. I want to get the Left Wing on the Orangeburg and Edgefield road as soon as possible. We are twisting the iron here beautifully. I will send the engineers up to you to-morrow; they do the work best.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Graham's Station, S. C., February 8, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow to Blackville, as follows: Third Division at 7 a. m.; First Division at 8 a. m. Each division will take care of its own trains. All detachments will be called in and march with their commands. The work of destroying the railroad is to be commenced at Blackville and continued west, this part of the road to be finished by the Fifteenth Corps. General Ward will march one unencumbered brigade in advance, and General Jackson will march two regiments as a rear guard. One section of artillery will march with the rear guard. The balance of the artillery will march in rear of the advanced brigade.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TWENTIETH CORPS,
On the March, February 8, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

GENERAL: Your dispatches were received by me at 6.30 this morning about three miles north of the Coosawhatchie Swamp. Those for

* See p. 342.

Generals Slocum and Corse I forwarded immediately. I expect to encamp to-night at Buford's Bridge. General Slocum is several miles to the rear. All getting along well.

Your obedient servant,

JNO. W. GEARY,
Brevet Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

General WILLIAMS:

I send you this note from General Geary, which will indicate to you his position and that of General Slocum, who has orders to turn up toward you. Please send back the inclosed order to General Slocum.*

I am, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Graham's Station, February 8, 1865.

Brig. Gen. JOHN W. GEARY,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The brevet major-general commanding directs that you march your command to Blackville to-morrow, via Ayers' and Nimmons' plantations. The bearer, one of our scouts, will guide you. You will find the roads good, and the general wishes you to reach Blackville to-morrow night. The distance will be about eighteen miles. We are at work destroying the railroad, and the whole command will get to Blackville to-morrow night. The Fifteenth Corps is at Lowry's; the Seventeenth, farther east. The Fourteenth Corps is to go to Williston. Corps headquarters will be at Blackville to-morrow night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 9.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Buford's Bridge, S. C., February 8, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow at 6 a. m. Order of brigades: Second, Selfridge's, Third, First. Artillery and trains will march in their usual relative order.

General Pardee with his brigade will take charge of the trains.

* * * * * * *

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary:

W. T. FORBES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Graham's, S. C., February 8, 1865.

[General J. W. GEARY:]

GENERAL: I send you a scout to show you the road from Buford's Bridge by Ayers' to Nimmons'. That is as far as he has been. But I

* See Special Field Orders, No. 25, p. 343.

know there is a good road from there to Blackville, which any negro can show you. The corps marched from Nimmons' to Springtown Meeting House. The road as far as we have been over it is good.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. W. ASMUSSEN,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY COMMAND,
Blackville, February 8, 1865—12 m.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: I will encamp to-night at Williston and destroy some track; February 9, at or before Windsor, and all the following day make demonstrations toward Augusta. Will, if prudent, destroy Government property at Aiken, and as much railroad as possible and return to Windsor. I will be prudent, bold, but not rash.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, February 8, 1865.

General KILPATRICK,
Blackville:

GENERAL: I have just received your note in cipher. I send you a copy of orders for the next move, which will give you the key to the whole.* Wheeler writes to General Howard offering not to burn cotton if we don't burn houses. I assured him that he would oblige me by burning cotton, for it saves us the trouble; that we don't burn occupied houses, but if people vacate their own houses I don't think they should expect us to protect them. You may burn all cotton; spare dwelling houses that are occupied, and teach your men to be courteous to women; it goes a great ways; but take all provisions and forage you need. Act as though you are to be followed by infantry. I expect Hood's army will try and join the South Carolina army about Columbia and I will try and interpose again at Orangeburg. I will order the Fourteenth Corps to Williston and Guignard's Bridge or Pine Log Bridge. Edisto is narrow and easily passed up there. The Orangeburg and Edgefield road is the "key line" of South Carolina.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY COMMAND, ARMY OF INVASION,
Williston, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Military Division of the Mississippi, in the field:

MAJOR: I arrived at this point at 4 p. m. to-day and am now destroying the track. I can find no force of the enemy between the railroad

* See Special Field Orders, No. 25, p. 343.

and the Edisto, save small picket posts. I understand that all the bridges on the Edisto are strongly guarded. After posting my pickets about the town, an attack was made upon a portion of the First Alabama Cavalry, holding the direct road to Augusta. Colonel Spencer was sent out with his brigade to feel of the enemy, and ascertain his strength. A fight ensued, in which six regiments of Allen's division, First, Third, Seventh, Ninth, Twelfth, and Fifty-first Alabama, were totally routed. Colonel Spencer alone conducted the fight, displaying much skill and great gallantry. Several hundred stand of arms were abandoned by the enemy, and left scattered along the road. One officer and many men were killed, and a large number wounded; several prisoners have been taken, and are still coming in. Colonel Spencer pursued the enemy nine miles in direction of Augusta from this point, and brought back to me as trophies the flags belonging to the Twelfth and Ninth Alabama Cavalry, and General Hagan's battle-flag. From prisoners I learn that Wheeler's command is very much scattered; that he has with him Anderson's division and Young's Virginia brigade only. Allen's division is picketing the country between the Edisto and the Salkehatchie. Iverson's division is upon the opposite side of the Salkehatchie, and Ferguson's division is between Brier Creek and the Ogeechee. I find plenty of corn for my command, and I think you will have no trouble in subsisting the animals of your whole army by foraging upon each side of the railroad. I trust that I am now carrying out your instructions, and that my operations will be satisfactory.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Cavalry.

P. S.—There are rumors that portions of Hood's army, and some dismounted cavalry, independent of Lee's corps, are between this point and Augusta. I can learn nothing reliable.

J. KILPATRICK.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Rear-Admiral J. A. DAHLGREN,
Commanding South Atlantic Blockading Squadron:

ADMIRAL: I have the honor to inform you that I have received a leave of absence from the War Department, and that Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore, U. S. Volunteers, has arrived here from the North, with instructions to relieve me, temporarily, of the command of this department. In consequence of which, I regret to state that I shall not be able to meet you according to agreement during the demonstration. I am requested by Major-General Gillmore to say that he will do himself the honor of making you an official visit as soon after assuming command as he possibly can. If you are not within this harbor at the time, he will follow you to Charleston Harbor.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Morris Island, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Capt. G. H. SCOTT,
Commanding Fleet, off Charleston:

CAPTAIN: I am requested by Brevet Brigadier-General Hartwell, through his aide, now commanding U. S. forces, Folly Island, S. C., to ask you to send, if possible, two monitors without delay to Stono to-day for co-operation with the land forces. General Schimmelfennig is on his way to Stono and cannot be referred to in this matter, but feel fully justified in asking you, in his name, to accede to this request. I have the honor to forward a copy of dispatches received for your information. If possible, please send a navy tug also to Stono without delay to facilitate the transportation of light artillery.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. W. DICKINSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

U. S. STEAMER JOHN ADAMS,
Off Morris Island, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Capt. J. W. DICKINSON,
Morris Island, S. C.:

SIR: Yours of this date is received, and in reply I have to inform you that it will not be possible to send two monitors to Stono as you desire. I do not, in the first place, feel authorized to move them from their anchorage without the admiral's order, and this evening neither the weather nor tide will admit of their going. I have ordered a tug to proceed immediately to Stono and report to the commanding army officer as desired.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
G. H. SCOTT,
Captain and Senior Officer.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Brig. Gen. A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Comdg. First Separate Brigade, Department of the South:

GENERAL: I have received a leave of absence from the War Department, and Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore, U. S. Volunteers, is now here to relieve me temporarily of the command of the department. In consequence of which I shall not be able to see you again in regard to the demonstration proposed to be made on James Island. I desire that as strong a demonstration be made as possible without loss of life, and that you co-operate with Admiral Dahlgren in connection with the same. General Gillmore will make you a visit as soon as possible after assuming command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Morris Island, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Brigadier-General SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Folly Island, S. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that in accordance with a request received through Captain Walton from Brigadier-General Hartwell, I have asked of Captain Scott in your name that he send two monitors to Stono without delay for the purpose of co-operating with the land forces. This dispatch was sent by boat to the fleet and has already arrived there. I had previously signaled to Captain Scott at 2.30 o'clock, in accordance with a like request received earlier, to "send a tug to Stono if possible." The dispatch was limited to these words. He has answered me that he will do so when the tide serves. In the letter sent by boat I explained to him what this tug was needed for, viz, for facilitating the transportation of light artillery.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. DICKINSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Morris Island, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Brigadier-General SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Commanding, &c., Folly Island, S. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward a copy of Captain Scott's reply* to my letter, and I beg leave to state that at the time General Hartwell sent his request through Captain Walton, to which this letter refers, he was aware of your being on your way down to Stono. I considered, therefore, that if the general being on the spot, and knowing (as I could not) the urgency of the case, saw fit to make this request in such a way as to leave me to infer that great haste in the matter was absolutely necessary, I did not consider that I would be justified in hesitating as to my action.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. DICKINSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Morris Island, S. C., February 8, 1865.

General SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Commanding, &c., Folly Island, S. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that my message in the case of the Frazier to Captain Scott was:

The Frazier appears to be disabled, and it is feared her rudder is gone. She is lying outside the bar. Will you please send a tug and see what is the matter, and if she needs assistance to tow her in? It is very important that she be not delayed longer outside; if not disabled, she will immediately come inside to the dock.

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* See p. 353.

This was signaled. The last clause was a postscript, and was added to save the time it would have taken to send a boat with orders to same effect. The Delaware started at 5.30 for Stono, having the hard bread on board. The Frazier came in at 5.45, landed the baggage and horses on Folly Island dock, and proceeded to Stono. The baggage was sent down in an ambulance which I had ordered up. Your orderly attended to it. I sent him over for the purpose, and he reports all right. The corporal with the horses and the other orderlies went down with it. The orders as to the hard bread were given last night to Lieutenant-Colonel Bennett. The term telegraphing in the connection used meant signaling.

Very respectfully,

J. W. DICKINSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Pocotaligo, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Captain BRIDGEFORD, *One hundred and second Illinois:*

CAPTAIN: The brigadier-general commanding was not aware at the time the order was sent you that your command was unarmed. He therefore directs that you establish your camp somewhere in the vicinity of Blair's landing. In regard to conflict with orders from General Prince, he holds all troops in this vicinity as in his command.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 8, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD, *Fort Fisher, N. C.:*

For the last three days there have been many troops arriving in Richmond from the Valley or Southwest Virginia. This is evidently a movement to get troops to send south and to enable the enemy to hold Wilmington also. I have no doubt but that the quicker you can bring your troops against Wilmington the smaller the force you will have to contend against.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

Quartermaster at Fort Monroe will send the above dispatch aboard the first transport going to Cape Fear River, and place it in the hands of a commissioned officer to be delivered to General Schofield. Transports must now be passing hourly, but not touching at Fort Monroe. You can send this on a tug-boat to go until they meet one.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 8, 1865.
(Via Fort Monroe, 5 p. m., 11th. Received 6 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I arrived here this morning with one division; have had very rough weather and been much delayed by it. I hope to get the troops all

landed by to-morrow night and send the transports back for the other divisions. There is no apparent change in the situation since you were here. I propose to commence operations at once without waiting for the other troops, as time is important. I think I can take Fort Anderson, and possibly Wilmington, with the force I now have.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *February 8, 1865.*
(Received 9.25 a. m. 11th.)

General D. C. MCCALLUM,
Manager Railroads:

Gauge of Wilmington and Weldon Railroad is the same as the New Berne Railroad. I have therefore concluded to adopt that gauge for this system of railroads, namely, four feet eight and one-half inches, and will require rolling stock accordingly. Please direct Captain Starkweather to report at New Berne instead of Savannah, and as soon as possible.

W. W. WRIGHT,
Colonel and Chief of Construction Corps.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., February 8, 1865.

Maj. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: In several confidential communications I have recently forwarded to you I have mentioned the fact of my having received instructions from both General Sherman and General Foster concerning the contemplated future operations in this State, but I am fearful that unless these plans have been made known to you my letters will not be perfectly understood. I have, therefore, thought proper to make some extracts from my instructions. General Foster writes me on the 21st ultimo, speaking of General Sherman, as follows:

> He will draw his supplies from New Berne by striking the railroad at Goldsborough, and you (General Palmer) will, therefore, make every preparation, not only to aid promptly and efficiently the forwarding of supplies when General Sherman reaches that point, but also, &c.

Again he writes:

> Prepare for landing and forwarding, either from New Berne or Beaufort, supplies for 70,000 men and 40,000 animals.

And a note is added that these supplies are to come from here (Hilton Head) in transports.

Now, if the railroad is put in order it can do the work, but should we not make our calculations to forward these supplies by the roads and rivers, in case the enemy destroys the railroad, now beyond our reach? With all the secrecy that can be observed, it is "in the air" in all this part of the country that Sherman's army will march through this State, and it will surely be known very soon that his supplies must come from here. If the wagons are to come with the 40,000 animals, we will be prepared, but nothing is said in my letter from General Foster of wagons, and even if the last requisitions for them from here

are filled we will have barely sufficient to supply the troops now here. You will recollect that in the spring of last year every wagon, mule, and horse that could possibly be spared was sent to Virginia. We had here, I presume, the finest land transportation in the country at that time.

Kinston is thirty miles from this place by the railroad and a few miles farther by the country road. It is still farther by the river, but I could easily send supplies by road or boats if the proper light draft steamers could be furnished. The stern-wheel steamers drawing not more than three feet could easily perform the work. Goldsborough is about thirty miles from Kinston, and if the enemy perceive that our base of supplies is here they will surely destroy as much of the road between these two places as they may have time to destroy. You will perceive, therefore, that the matter of transportation (wagons and small steamers) and forage is one for serious thought.

I shall forward with this a requisition for an additional supply of ambulances, with horses and harness. The requisitions inclosed will call for other articles, the necessity for which is apparent, if the force here is to be materially increased. I would respectfully but urgently call your attention to the fact that a quartermaster to take the position of chief of his department is very much needed here. A short time since I addressed a communication on this subject to you, but I have received no reply. A man of thorough business habits and more experience is necessary here at such a time as this. If the interest of the service will admit of Col. George W. Bradley's coming here, even for a short time, I make an earnest application for him. Colonel Bradley is energetic, industrious, intelligent, and he has the happy faculty of infusing his spirit into all of his subordinates. I feel assured that Colonel Bradley would be pleased to take this position, even temporarily. At all events, I trust that you will be able to furnish me with a quartermaster senior to any of those here, provided always, he is a man of energy, &c. It is proper for me here to remark that the assistant quartermaster now here, acting as chief quartermaster, is a very correct, intelligent officer, but he is junior to some of his department now serving in the district.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,

Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
Sixth Street Wharf, Washington, February 8, 1865.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Second Division, Twenty-third Corps:

SIR: I have been directed by Brig. Gen. D. H. Rucker, chief quartermaster, depot of Washington, to embark about 2,550 men of your command from Alexandria at 7 a. m. on the morning of the 10th instant. I have the honor to request that you furnish me with the roster of your command from this day's report, that the proper assignment of the troops can be made. I would also request you to inform me if the headquarters of the division will leave with the first transports or remain until the entire division has embarked. Unless other transports arrive at an early hour to-morrow, the horses of the troops which embark on the 10th instant will have to remain at Alexandria until

the 11th or 12th instant, at which time the remainder of the division will be shipped. The horses can be stabled by the quartermaster at Alexandria until they can be shipped. Please give the necessary orders for the First and Third Brigades to break camp at 8 a. m. to-morrow. I will have boats at Giesborough, at the lower wharf, to convey them to Alexandria, where they will draw five days' cooked rations, and will be quartered at the Soldiers' Rest until the next morning. Ten days' rations in bulk have been placed on each vessel. My reason for naming the First and Third Brigades is that their strength amounts to about the number which the vessels now at Alexandria will carry. If the freezing of the river should prevent a steamer from running from Giesborough to Alexandria, the command will have to march over by way of Long Bridge. If convenient, I would like to see the division quartermaster at my office at 8 a. m. to-morrow morning. Capt. L. L. Moore, assistant quartermaster at Giesborough, will send him over on a tug.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. S. ALLEN,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 30. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., February 9, 1865.

Lieut. Col. O. E. Babcock, aide-de-camp, will proceed without delay and report to Maj. Gen. J. M. Schofield, at Fort Fisher or vicinity, for temporary duty as per verbal instructions given him by the lieutenant-general commanding. Upon the completion of his instructions he will rejoin these headquarters.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Walker's House, near Railroad, February 9, 1865.

General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: An officer has just left me for Blackville, where Slocum will arrive with Geary's division, which completes the Twentieth Corps at Blackville.

Davis is moving for Barnwell and will come up to the west of Blackville about Williston. I have ordered Slocum to put in to-morrow good on the railroad and then look to crossing the Edisto at the head of Young's Island and at Guignard's. I want you to effect a crossing at or between Binnaker's and Holman's Bridges. Do it in your own way, using all the Seventeenth Corps and one division of the Fifteenth sent by Logan to Holman's Bridge. If you can secure a lodgment to-morrow and get to work on a bridge at Binnaker's it will be time enough to cross the day after to-morrow. All accounts agree that the road from Binnaker's to Orangeburg is better than from Holman's. I am seven miles from Binnaker's, five from Holman's, and six from Blackville. I will probably go up to Blackville to-morrow to see Slocum. Keep me well advised of your progress. As soon as Logan completes

the destruction of the road to Blackville he can move his two other divisions down to Holman's, or wherever you need him. It is to me patent that the enemy has only cavalry at the Edisto, and we must keep it busy that Kilpatrick may encounter less about Aiken. His movement on Aiken besides the substantial damage will disconnect the part of Lee's corps that did not get over the railroad. Proceed to effect a lodgment on the north of the Edisto by cautious but persistent efforts. Once across, the enemy will fall behind the Santee.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Binnaker's Bridge, February 9, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: Major-General Mower effected a crossing of the Edisto this evening about 6 o'clock. He laid a pontoon to an island, and as soon as he had got one brigade over he pressed on across the island and waded the swamp beyond and effected a lodgment on what appeared to be the mainland. He met, however, a skirmish line about 8 p. m. and, as it was night, concluded to intrench and wait for daylight. The island is marshy, and the water in the main swamp between two and three feet deep. The men swung their cartridge-boxes around their necks.

I am inclined to think the crossing at Holman's Bridge is no worse than this. General Hazen has crossed some men over a half mile above the bridge and cut his way nearly through the swamp. Word has just come that Mower has driven the enemy off, sent back a regiment along the main road, and has taken up a strong position a mile and a half from the river. The bridge on the main road is being laid.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Walker's House, February 9, 1865—11 p. m.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: Your note is just received. General Sherman directs me to answer saying he is very much gratified that General Mower has effected a crossing and a lodgment. It is of great importance and he wishes it held beyond a possibility of loss, but does not wish General Mower to go farther at present. Complete your crossing facilities, getting bridges, &c., in good order for use. To-morrow he will go to see General Slocum at Blackville and hurry up matters on that wing. Have you any news yet from the wagon train sent back from Rivers' for bread, &c.? Let Hazen also make good crossings, looking to the move on Orangeburg day after to-morrow (11th).

I am, &c.,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 9.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Binnaker's Bridge, S. C., February 9, 1865.

I. The attention of the general commanding has been called by officers of our own army to the wanton and indiscriminate destruction of private property, burning of dwelling houses, plundering and pillaging the houses of the few poor people who have remained at home, &c. There are circumstances under which it is proper to burn the houses and other property of citizens. In all such cases, corps, division, and brigade commanders will order its destruction and report their action and their reasons for it to the headquarters of the corps or to these headquarters.

II. Individual foragers are seen every day roaming about the country, often mounted on some worthless "picked-up" animal, and without other authority than that of their company commander. The attention of commanding officers is called to this discouraging practice, and renewed efforts are demanded to regulate the system of foraging.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Railroad, near Cross-Roads, February 9, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD:

GENERAL: The First and Third Divisions are in camp north of the railroad; Woods across the Holman's Bridge road, with Smith upon his right. I have two brigades at work destroying the railroad, one working toward Blackville and the other from that point back to camp. As soon as they return will notify you. My headquarters are on the railroad at the Fogle plantation, near the crossing of the Holman's Bridge road.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Binnaker's Bridge, February 9, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Your note was just shown to the general. He desires me to inform you that General Mower is across the river below the enemy's position; has crossed about a mile of swamp, and is intrenching on the high ground. After some skirmishing the enemy fell back from his line nearest the river, but is thought to be in another line in the rear of this. Nothing has been heard from General Hazen. The general is anxious to hear from him, whether he succeeded in effecting a crossing or not.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Have just heard from General Hazen. He is across. The general has directed five boats be sent him in the morning, and desires that you direct him to make a reconnaissance in the morning with a

strong skirmish line, and that if he finds the enemy gone to take position on the mainland and build foot bridges through the swamp. General Mower has succeeded in driving off the enemy and is intrenching a mile and a half beyond the river. If the enemy has not left General Hazen's front their position can be turned by General Mower.

Respectfully, &c.,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Orangeburg and Barnwell Cross-Roads, February 9, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to state to you that the brigade of my command, ordered to Blackville to destroy the railroad, has just returned to camp. Colonel Stone reports to have destroyed from 1,200 yards to a mile of the road this side of Blackville. There are still about three miles of road remaining undestroyed. No other troops were at work between this place and Blackville.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Holman's Bridge, S. C., February 9, 1865.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Headquarters Department of the Tennessee:

I have my skirmish line at the river bank, which is bluff on this side; on the one opposite a cypress swamp extends for half a mile, and the road runs through it in a straight line. The enemy have a few sharpshooters posted on this road about 100 yards from the river. I can form no conjecture of their force beyond the swamp. I have a crossing of felled trees and a way cleared nearly through the swamp about half a mile above the bridge and a raft completed below it, and will to-night put in a piece of artillery, sweeping the road. If it is desired I will cross a brigade in the morning and endeavor to force away whatever may be beyond, or will clear the road with artillery and push a skirmish line or light force through the swamp. I would be glad if the wishes of the general commanding might be sent me by the bearer of this. It will require four boats to put a pontoon bridge across here, or by more labor one could be made without boats.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

This note is sent direct, as I do not know where to find corps headquarters.

W. B. H.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Binnaker's Bridge, S. C., February 9, 1865.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM B. HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Your note is received. The general commanding directs me to say that he has ordered five boats to be sent you in the morning, with which you can cross the main stream with one brigade. He does not wish you to use the brigade further than to make a demonstration at present. General Mower has succeeded in crossing the main stream and has waded the swamp for a mile beyond and is intrenching himself on the mainland.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—General Mower has succeeded in driving the enemy off and is now intrenching on the mainland a mile and a half from the river. The enemy will probably leave your front during the night.

Respectfully,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Graham's, S. C., February 9, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: In reply to communication of date, I have the honor to state that the detail of one brigade from my command has destroyed about one mile of the railroad track, completing work commenced by the Twentieth Army Corps. I cannot state whether the track has been destroyed as far as Blackville, as I have not been there.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 12.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., February 9, 1865.

I. The troops composing this division will march at 6 a. m. to-morrow, the 10th instant, to Lane's plantation (or Springfield [Springtown] Meeting House) in the following order, viz:

First. Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry as an advance, following verbal instructions already received. Second. First Brigade Infantry, with its train, and Battery H, First Missouri Light Artillery, one regiment to be thrown in rear of train and battery. General Rice will move at precisely 5.30 a. m., this being an exception to the hour above designated. Third. Trains as follows: First, supply train; second, ambulances; third, trains of Seventeenth Army Corps and Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry; fourth, trains Second and Third Brigades; fifth, ordnance train. Fourth. Second Brigade Infantry, Colonel Adams, who will so dispose of his regiments as to have them guard the greatest

number of wagons; the supply and ordnance [trains] being of the most importance will require to be more closely watched. Fifth. Third Brigade Infantry, Colonel Hurlbut commanding.

* * * * * * *

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Binnaker's Bridge, S. C., February 9, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

One regiment of the First Division has crossed the main stream about 300 yards below the road, and General Mower is now laying a pontoon bridge. The enemy have not yet discovered him, and are still in position. There is a swamp between where he landed and the enemy, which he thinks passable.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Binnaker's Bridge, February 9, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding wishes you to effect a lodgment on the other side of the river by making a detour sufficiently far to your left to turn the enemy's position without loss. He is satisfied that the enemy has nothing but two pieces of artillery, supported by cavalry in small force, and thinks that he may be driven off by persistent and continued efforts, though there is no immediate hurry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Binnaker's, S. C., February 9, 1865—8.30 p. m.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: General Mower has crossed the river with his entire command, and thinks he is in rear of the enemy, who are supposed to still be in position. I have ordered the Third Division to his support, one brigade to cross and one to remain on this side.

Respectfully,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING,
Salkehatchie River, February 9, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Aide-de-Camp:

MAJOR: Geary's division leaving here at 6 a. m. to-day and will reach Blackville to-night. I ordered the Fourteenth Corps to Blackville, but in view of the movements of the Twentieth Corps I shall direct Davis to some point west of Blackville. Before leaving Savannah I applied for a regiment of cavalry, also for one of the engineer regiments. I understood that both applications were approved by General Sherman, yet I have not had an engineer soldier with me and have had but six mounted men. All my messages have been sent by footmen. I cannot to-day send a mounted man to the general-in-chief nor to either of the corps commanders under me. I have had bridges to construct in water from eight to fifteen feet in depth and have not had a man of experience with me. If it is not absolutely necessary to retain all the engineer troops with the Right Wing, I earnestly hope that at least one company of the First Michigan may be sent to this wing. I also ask that at least 100 good cavalrymen, under good officers, may be permanently assigned to duty with me. I would like the Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Graham's Station, February 9, 1865—12 m.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Blackville:

DEAR GENERAL: Your note of this morning is received. Williams moved hence for Blackville this a. m. The Michigan Engineers have been ordered to your flank to twist railroad. Tell Williams I have inspected his work here, and the bars are not twisted; better do half the quantity, but do it thoroughly; unless there be a warp, the bar can be straightened again. All the cavalry is now and has been on your flank. Kilpatrick was last night up at Williston, where he whipped a division of cavalry, and is moving to break up railroad partially as far as Aiken. I was in hopes you would turn Davis off below Coosawhatchie Swamp, through Barnwell, to Williston or White Pond. Get him, as soon as possible, at work on the railroad from Williston west, and in the meantime have the bridges at Guignard's and Pine Log examined, so as to cross there, or at the head of Young's Island. My orders of yesterday give the next movement. To-day, Howard, with the Seventeenth Corps, is moving to Binnaker's Bridge. Two divisions of the Fifteenth Corps are at the forks of the roads west of this, and the other at Holman's Bridge. Don't take any of Kilpatrick's cavalry to make escorts or orderlies, for he has to fight and contend now with double and nearly treble his numbers. For courier duty and orderlies, pick up horses and mount drummers and non-combatants. If necessary to get horses, break up teams and use mules for ambulances, burning up the empty wagons. Howard has no cavalry save one fragment of mounted infantry. By keeping on our left you will have henceforth good foraging ground, and may pick up horses and plenty of forage. Pine Log Ford will be the place for Kilpatrick to

cross over the South Edisto. Your best points will be the head of Young's Island and Guignard's. We must all turn amphibious, for the country is half under water. Mower had to fight at the Salkehatchie with his men up to their armpits, he setting the example. I think we can spend all of to-morrow on railroad breaking, but next day we must be across Edisto. You can gain time on Howard as he swings against Orangeburg. Your wing will move on Columbia.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Blackville, S. C., February 9, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. C. DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move your corps through Barnwell to Williston, on the Augusta and Charleston Railroad. He wishes the railroad destroyed from that point west as far as possible, until you receive further orders. Williston is the first station west of Blackville.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Mims' Farm, February 9, 1865.

Col. A. C. MCCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Please say to the major-general commanding that I have gone into camp at this place, which is twenty-nine miles from Barnwell and two miles from the forks of the road, marked on the maps as Gillett's Church. (I get these distances from the negroes.) This is as far as I thought the rear of the command could reach, and as the last wagons have just only got into camp at 6.30 o'clock, I think I was right. Unless I receive other orders I will march toward Barnwell at 6.30 o'clock in the morning (prompt), and if the roads are fair will get within a mile of it to-morrow night. The town itself was burned by our cavalry three days ago. I lost three hours to-day in building crossings over streams. The last one turned out badly, I learn, although I lowered the water on the road nine inches by clearing out the dam caused by the fence when I built my foot bridge. I will move as I have stated unless I receive other orders.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. BAIRD,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Blackville, S. C., February 9, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing, Army of Georgia:

GENERAL: I propose to move Geary's division and Michigan Engineers along the railroad to-morrow toward Williston Station and

encamp the corps at that place to-morrow night. I shall use the Michigan Engineers to twist the railroad iron; the infantry to pile and burn. If this meets your views please inform me, that I may make the necessary orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Blackville, S. C., February 9, 1865.

Col. J. L. SELFRIDGE,
Commanding First Brigade, First Division:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you make a reconnaissance with your brigade to-morrow, starting at 7 a. m., to Duncan's Bridge over the Edisto River, at the head of Young's Island. General Slocum is very anxious to ascertain the condition of the crossing at that point, the force of the enemy there, if any, the state of the roads, &c. If possible General Sherman wishes the Left Wing to cross there. Major Parks will accompany you; more detailed instructions have been given him for transmittal to you. Lieutenant Ludlow, chief of engineers, Left Wing, will also accompany you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Blackville, S. C., February 9, 1865.

Brevet Major-General GEARY,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: In accordance with directions from Major-General Slocum, your division is to remain at this place to-morrow to protect the trains of the corps, which are to be left here to await the result of a reconnaissance which will be made to-morrow by Colonel Selfridge's brigade toward Duncan's Bridge. The general commanding desires that you will send one of your brigades at an early hour in the morning to take the position on the north side of the railroad, now occupied by the First Brigade of the Third Division. The balance of your troops will be disposed so as to protect the trains. Your orderly has been detained here to await this dispatch.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 10.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Near Blackville, S. C., February 9, 1865.

This command will move to-morrow at 7 a. m. Order of brigades: Third, First, Second. Colonel Mindil will leave two regiments as rear guard to cover the trains.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary:

W. T. FORBES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 9, 1865.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE:

GENERAL: In turning over the command of the Department of the South to you I herewith place in your hands the instructions, both public and confidential, received from the War Department and from General Sherman. General Sherman's written instructions may be modified in execution, if the circumstances warrant it; for instance, if the enemy show a disposition to evacuate Charleston he may be felt strongly, and if the evacuation actually takes place the works are to be occupied and the diversion in Bull's Bay may not then be made. Secondly. After carrying out the instructions regarding the operation at Bull's Bay, if, in the judgment of the commander of the department, an additional operation may be attempted on Sullivan's Island, as the admiral desires, he may undertake it if circumstances be favorable. This must not, however, be to the prejudice of anything specially directed by General Sherman. Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch is to follow the enemy toward Charleston with his whole division and destroy completely the railroad as far as he can go. This ought to be done as far as the Ashepoo if possible, and under very favorable circumstances to the Edisto. He is at the same time aided by Brig. Gen. Henry Prince, commanding camp of detachments for General Sherman's army at Blair's landing, on the Pocotaligo River, to guard General Sherman's communication back to Port Royal, at least from the railroad back to that place. General Prince is under command of the general commanding the department. If the city of Charleston be evacuated the destruction of the railroad is to be stopped, as we may need it for use. General Hatch may then be withdrawn, leaving a sufficient guard at Port Royal Ferry, Pocotaligo, &c. As soon as General Sherman reaches the triangle between Columbia, Camden, and Kinston, this same force may also be withdrawn, then be used elsewhere. The orders from General Grant are to maintain a camp at or near Pocotaligo, and no limit is fixed to this maintenance. General Sherman desired a picket to be kept at Coosawhatchie, Salkehatchie bridge, and Combahee Ferry, with a reserve at Garden's Corners, and wherever else necessary, with main body at camp at or near Pocotaligo. As far as operations in Charleston Harbor is concerned, the commander of the department may co-operate with the admiral in any way that he may judge proper, provided the written instructions be first fully carried out. General Sherman did not favor any serious operation about Charleston Harbor, but was willing to yield his objections if the commanding officer, after carrying out his essential directions, judged he had an opportunity favorable enough to warrant the risk of a serious attack. General Sherman attached more importance to the flank movement at Bull's Bay and Georgetown. Major Gray informed me that General Sherman desired the operation at Bull's Bay to be made six days from that day (the 8th instant). The force for this is assembled at the Stono. The present position of affairs with respect to General Saxton is seen by reference to letters on file. General Saxton has to-day replied to my letter of the 4th instant requesting that he state officially what aid and assistance he requires to enable him to perform his duties. This letter is left for your action. I have also made application to the Secretary of War to have the last sentence of paragraph V, of Special Field Orders, No. 15, issued by General Sherman, annulled, so as to leave the recruiting and organization of the negroes where it rested by previous orders and instructions of the War Depart-

ment. This application was made with the sanction of General Sherman. I have also applied for the detail of Brig. Gen. William Birney to relieve Brevet Major-General Saxton of all duties in this department.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 9, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. RUFUS SAXTON, U. S. Volunteers,
Inspector of Settlements and Plantations:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant in reply to mine of the 4th, and would state in answer that, being about to go North on leave of absence, I have turned over your requests, as contained therein, to Major-General Gillmore, who relieves me, for his action.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 9, 1865. (Via Pocotaligo.)

Brig. Gen. JOHN P. HATCH:

Telegram received. I telegraphed you that it was necessary to follow up the enemy and destroy as much of the railroad as possible. This was in answer to your dispatch stating that the enemy had fallen back from your front, and had his main force at Adams' Run. I have been granted a leave of absence and shall leave on the Arago to-morrow. Major-General Gillmore relieves me.

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 9, 1865.

Brig. Gen. E. E. POTTER, *Beaufort, S. C.:*

Major-General Foster authorizes Brigadier-General Hatch to take troops from your district for the purpose of building a tête-de-pont at Port Royal Ferry. Two companies have been ordered there for that purpose from Beaufort. No other authority has been granted to General Hatch.

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 9, 1865.

Brig. Gen. E. E. POTTER, *Beaufort, S. C.:*

Prepare to go to the Northern District to take charge of an offensive operation. I will send the Coit for you. Come down here as soon as she arrives at Beaufort. Leave the command of the district temporarily in the hands of the next senior officer.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 64. } *Washington, February 9, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

28. Bvt. Brig. Gen. Milton S. Littlefield, colonel Twenty-first U. S. Colored Troops, is hereby relieved from duty in the Department of the South and will report in person, without delay, to Major-General Canby, commanding Military Division of West Mississippi, for duty.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
No 15. } *Hilton Head, S. C., February 9, 1865.*

Having been granted leave of absence, on account of disability from wounds, I hereby transfer the command of this department during my absence to Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore, U. S. Volunteers, in accordance with orders from the War Department.

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
No. 16. } *Hilton Head, S. C., February 9, 1865.*

In compliance with orders from the Secretary of War, dated at Washington, D. C., January 30, 1865, the undersigned hereby assumes command of the Department of the South.

All existing orders and regulations will remain in force until otherwise ordered.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General of Volunteers.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
No. 17. } *Hilton Head, S. C., February 9, 1865.*

The following-named officers are hereby announced on the staff of the major-general commanding, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly:

Capt. W. L. M. Burger, U. S. Volunteers, assistant adjutant-general.

Capt. Thorndike D. Hodges, Thirty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, acting assistant adjutant-general.

Col. C. L. Kilburn, assistant commissary-general of subsistence, U. S. Army, chief commissary.

Maj. C. W. Thomas, U. S. Volunteers, chief quartermaster.

Maj. J. C. Gray, jr., U. S. Volunteers, judge-advocate.

Surg. M. Clymer, U. S. Volunteers, medical director.

Maj. A. V. Elliott, additional paymaster, U. S. Army, chief paymaster.

Bvt. Maj. George E. Gouraud, aide-de-camp, acting assistant inspector general.

Capt. Charles R. Suter, U. S. Engineer Corps, chief engineer.

First Lieut. Isaac Arnold, jr., U. S. Army, chief of ordnance.

Lieut. Col. S. L. Woodford, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers, provost-marshal-general.

Lieut. Col. William Ames, Third Rhode Island Volunteer Artillery, chief of artillery.

Capt. Leslie Smith, First U. S. Infantry, commissary of musters.

Capt. Jesse Merrill, chief signal officer.

Capt. Henry M. Bragg, aide-de-camp.

Capt. James R. Gilmore, assistant quartermaster, U. S. Volunteers, superintendent military telegraphs.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Folly Island, S. C., February 9, 1865.

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the South:

CAPTAIN: In pursuance to verbal instructions received February 6 from Major-General Foster, and no orders to the contrary having been received up to this moment (3.30 p. m., February 9, 1865), the movement ordered will be carried out to-night and to-morrow. The only co-operation on the part of the navy I have been able to secure is the action of the naval force commonly posted in Stono Inlet, viz, two gun-boats and two mortar schooners. Ensign Neil has arrived with the military gunboats Augusta and Savannah, but has not yet reported to me. No rations have yet arrived. There are at present no indications of an intended evacuation of Charleston by the enemy. There seems to be in part new troops around Charleston, as the intercepted signal dispatches constantly show new names. Yesterday, February 8, certain officers at Mount Pleasant were ordered to report themselves for duty at Jacksonborough.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding District.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 9, 1865.

In compliance with orders of the War Department, the undersigned hereby assumes command of the Department of North Carolina. Department headquarters will be with the army in the field.

The following staff officers are on duty at these headquarters:

Maj. J. A. Campbell, assistant adjutant-general.

Maj. William M. Wherry, aide-de-camp.

Capt. William J. Twining, aide-de-camp.

Capt. William A. Lord, aide-de-camp.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
February 9, 1865.

Rear-Admiral PORTER, U. S. Navy,
Commanding, &c., Cape Fear River:

SIR: Preparatory to operations against Wilmington, I desire to advance General Terry's line so as to threaten the enemy's position east of Cape Fear River. It will greatly facilitate the operations to have for a short time previous to the advance a strong fire from the gun-boats upon the right of the enemy's lines, viz, immediately opposite Fort Anderson. Possibly the effect of this may be so great as to enable the troops to take possession of Sugar Loaf Hill, and thus obviate the necessity of the proposed operations west of the river. The fleet outside may also render some assistance, though the fire will be at long range and inaccurate on account of the intervening woods. I would like to make the advance to-morrow, or the next day at the latest, if you can be prepared to co-operate so soon. If this movement results in a decided success, which I do not count upon, I will push for Wilmington at once. If not, I will then be prepared to transfer troops to the west bank of the river, and threaten in like manner Fort Anderson and the adjacent line, preparatory to the more extended movement to turn the enemy's position. These initiatory movements can be made while I am getting up the rest of my troops and materials, and preparing for an extended movement, if that prove to be necessary. I hope thus to save several days' time, which is important. Please be so kind as to inform me when you can co-operate in the movement I propose.

I am, admiral, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, *February 9, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. P. C. HAYES,
Acting Provost-Marshal, Twenty-third Army Corps:

Please say to General Schofield that I have nothing of importance to communicate. The various preparations for co-operation with other forces are going on quietly. Should General Schofield come to Morehead I shall see him. Where is he now, and can I expect him here soon?

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

MOREHEAD CITY, *February 9, 1865.*

Brigadier-General PALMER,
New Berne, N. C.:

GENERAL: I arrived at this point this morning at 8 o'clock with about 5,000 troops, and am ordered to move directly to New Berne. I await transportation.

THOS. F. MEAGHER,
Brig. Gen., Comdg. Provisional Division, Army of the Tennessee.

FORT FISHER, *February 9, 1865.*

General R. DELAFIELD,
Chief Engineer, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

I have the honor to inclose a sketch of the vicinity of Fort Fisher.* The department letter of January 28 is received, and in a day or two Admiral Porter will place a vessel at my disposal for the experiments referred to therein.

Very respectfully,

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Aide-de-Camp, and Brevet Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 10, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Washington, D. C.:

The Dispatch to-day has the following:

FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.

The enemy are in possession of the railroad west of Branchville. A dispatch from General Wheeler, dated Holman's Bridge, February 7, received in Charleston on Wednesday, says:

"My pickets near Blackville this morning were charged by three brigades of cavalry, which drove them beyond the village. Dibrell's (Tennessee) brigade, being in the vicinity, met and charged the enemy, driving them back into the village. Blackville is on the line of the South Carolina Railroad, twenty-eight miles west of Branchville and forty-nine miles southwest of Columbia."

A dispatch from Branchville, received in Charleston the same day, states:

"The enemy have made their appearance along the South Carolina Railroad beyond the Edisto River, and have burned a house within a mile and a half of the railroad bridge. About 7 o'clock yesterday evening our troops were withdrawn to this side of the bridge and the bridge burned. Thus railroad connection with Augusta is severed."

No official dispatches from this quarter were given to the press yesterday; whether any were received we do not know. It is an error, however, to suppose that because any point on the South Carolina Railroad is in the hands of the enemy that we can no longer draw supplies from Georgia. It would be unwise to explain the matter at this time.

There was a report yesterday that Charleston had been evacuated. We find in official circles no confirmation of the report.

From the Whig:

Charleston, February 9.—A dispatch from Orangeburg to-day says that the enemy are in front of the Edisto line from near New Bridge to Duncan's Bridge. The main force is said to be near the railroad. There has been skirmishing to-day at Binnaker's Bridge. Our troops are guarding the railroad bridge. The enemy show no disposition to force a crossing. A dispatch from General Wheeler, dated February 8, 3.30 p. m., says:

"A large column of the enemy's infantry struck the railroad at Graham's and Blackville. Kilpatrick is at Blackville with three brigades."

FROM PETERSBURG.

RESULTS OF TUESDAY'S FIGHTING.—THE ENEMY ERECTING OBSERVATORIES.—BOTH SIDES STRENGTHENING THE NEW LINES.

Petersburg, February 8.—There was no fighting to-day and quiet was once more resumed. The enemy still holds his position on Hatcher's Run. His lines have thereby been extended, but not advanced. General Sorrel was wounded in the lungs, but the wound is not considered mortal. Colonel Hoffman, of Virginia, was killed in the fight Monday. Our loss will not reach 500; the enemy's loss is estimated to be treble that number. The dead have all been buried, and the wounded brought from the field. The enemy are erecting observatories on our right.

* See Plate LXXV, Map 1 of the Atlas.

The heavy cannonading yesterday afternoon was caused by our artillery shelling the enemy's lines. Both sides were engaged to-day in strengthening their new lines. The Montgomery Mail learns that the Federals are concentrating their forces at Eastport and Decatur, for the purpose of moving on Selma and Montgomery as soon as the roads are in a suitable condition. Vice-President Stephens left Richmond Wednesday evening for Georgia.

T. S. BOWERS,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Binnaker's Bridge, S. C., February 10, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Your note of last night received. I will have a good bridge-head at each place, and govern myself by your directions. I sent a lieutenant with six mounted men to meet the supply train and turn it so as to follow General Corse. There is no doubt but what it is with him. It has the Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry for a guard. It may be in rear of Davis. I am going over the Edisto now to reconnoiter. The casualties in yesterday's skirmish were 1 man killed, 1 mortally wounded, and 3 others wounded. The enemy commanded the road with his artillery.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Near Graham's, S. C., February 10, 1865.

General O. O. HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: I have just returned from Blackville, where I saw General Slocum. The Twentieth Corps is all up and at work destroying railroad. The Fourteenth, General Slocum thinks, will reach Williston to-night. I also learn that General Corse is close at hand, so all things are in readiness for the move on Orangeburg. General Slocum will have his two corps on the Orangeburg and Edgefield road, opposite the New Bridge, at the head of Fair's Island, and Guignard's by the day after to-morrow. You had better move the Seventeenth Corps straight on Orangeburg, aiming to get within two or three miles, ready the next day to cross by pontoons above Orangeburg and make a lodgment on the road. The Fifteenth Corps should move to-morrow to Bull Fight Pond, and the next day to North Edisto, at the mouth of Mill Branch Creek or Caw Caw, according to the appearances about Orangeburg. I will accompany the Fifteenth Corps and camp with it to-morrow night. I want to have the road broken up good from about Orangeburg up above the State road, Mathews' Post-Office, but would prefer that one corps should do the work, leaving the Fifteenth to follow a course more to the west in support of the Left Wing, in the event of Dick Taylor having got to Augusta with Hood's old army. Slocum's orders will take him by the most direct road possible to Columbia, but making to his left about the Sand Hills in case he comes in contact with one of your columns. I have nothing from Kilpatrick to-day. If

to-morrow or next day we observe a concentration of forces about Orangeburg I can draw from Slocum by the Edgefield road. I will notify General Logan to put his corps in motion to-morrow to Bull Fight Pond.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE.
Near Binnaker's Bridge, February 10, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: Your letter is just received. I sent a little time ago an order for your approval. The only difference will be the stopping the Fifteenth Corps a little short of where I ordered it. I am inclined to think one division had better follow the Seventeenth Corps till opposite Bull Fight Pond.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Binnaker's Bridge, S. C., February 10, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: One of our men captured the other day near Graham's escaped from his guard near Orangeburg. He says he crossed the river at Holman's Bridge on the 7th. He says he saw quite large camps on the north side of the Edisto, and understood that the troops were of Lee's corps, and had marched all the way from Augusta. Stovall's brigade was in front of Mower last night, of Stevenson's division, said to be 400 strong. They took the first left-hand road and went toward Columbia. The force in front of Hazen was infantry, and took the Columbia road. My scouts have been over this road across Holman's Bridge as far as it intercepts the left-hand road from Binnaker's Bridge, that is, five or six miles out. The road is reported good and the country full of provisions. Everything is in readiness now to advance on Orangeburg. I have directed General Logan to send three divisions by Holman's Bridge and one by Binnaker's. The latter will be the nearest for Corse from Graham's. I hardly think Corse will reach Graham's to-night. The supply train you inquired about is with him.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

P. S.—Corse has deviated toward your camp, and must be within six miles of you to-night. I send you some mail just arrived by Captain Gilbreth.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 10.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Binnaker's Bridge, S. C., February 10, 1865.

The commanding general has noticed quite an amount of provisions taken from the country in the camps after the troops have left. It is directed that the empty wagons be filled with commissary supplies; foraged now while there is an abundance. This work had better be carefully proportioned to each brigade by the division commissary. Fill the wagons first and keep them filled with meal, flour, bacon, sweet potatoes, &c. In this way the command will be prepared to encounter a few days' march through a barren country. Corps and division commanders will see that a fair amount of forage is taken along, but in filling the empty wagons as above ordered they will give the preference to commissary supplies.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 35.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Binnaker's Bridge, S. C., February 10, 1865.

* * * * * * *

II. The following will be the order of march, commencing to-morrow at 7 a. m.: The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will move directly along the Binnaker Bridge road on Orangeburg; take up a strong position west of the North Fork, pushing forward a reconnaissance of at least one brigade, without wagons, to secure and hold the bridge at that point (Orangeburg), if possible. Pen's Branch will probably afford a position for the right flank. Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, commanding Fifteenth Army Corps, will march three of his divisions via Holman's Bridge and endeavor to reach the point marked Poplar Spring with his head of column. He will march his other division via Binnaker's Bridge toward Orangeburg until it forms a junction with the rest of his command opposite Poplar Spring. He will carefully examine all roads and crossings of the North Fork to the north of Orangeburg. The trains of department headquarters will follow the leading division of the Seventeenth Army Corps. The section of the bridge with General Logan will follow and encamp near his rear division. The section with General Blair will follow and encamp near the rear division on Binnaker's Bridge road. Headquarters to-morrow night will be near the advance of the Seventeenth Army Corps.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Fogle's Plantation, S. C., February 10, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Military Division of the Mississippi:

MAJOR: I have the honor to inform you, for the information of the general-in-chief, that in accordance with instructions received from Major-General Howard, the Second Division of this corps has been

pushed across the Edisto River at Holman's Bridge, and the Third Division, Major-General Smith commanding, has been ordered to move forward this afternoon to occupy the position formerly held by General Hazen, near Holman's Bridge, on this side of the river.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Walker's House, February 10, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Corps:

GENERAL: I have this moment written to General Howard that he may begin his movement on Orangeburg. You may, therefore, in the morning early put your corps in motion for Bull Fight Pond, on the Edgefield and Orangeburg road, and then await orders from General Howard or myself. I will accompany you, going from here direct to Holman's Bridge.

I am, &c., yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Binnaker's Bridge, S. C., February 10, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Please reconnoiter as soon as you can across Holman's Bridge and as far as Bull Fight Pond, to ascertain if the enemy have any force on the road, and to ascertain the character of the road that far.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Fogle's Plantation, S. C., February 10, 1865.

Maj. Gen. O. O. HOWARD,
Commanding Department and Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that General Corse with his division is about six miles back on the direct road from Springtown Meeting House to this point, crossing the railroad in front of my headquarters. I have sent a staff officer back to meet him.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Orangeburg and Barnwell Cross-Roads, S. C.,
February 10, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that my command has effectually destroyed the following amount of the Charleston and Augusta Railroad: First Brigade, Bvt. Brig. Gen. William B. Woods commanding, four miles at and near Bamberg on the 7th and 8th instant; one mile, near our present location, to-day, the 10th. This was road that had already been torn up, and I was obliged to get the fuel. Second Brigade, Col. R. F. Catterson, Ninety-seventh Indiana, commanding, two miles near our present camp to-day, the 10th instant. Third Brigade, Col. George A. Stone, Twenty-fifth Iowa, commanding, one mile and three-quarters near our present camp to-day and yesterday; part of this had already been torn up. This brigade marched to Blackville yesterday, the 9th, after having made the march from Bamberg to the present camp, and destroyed one mile of the track as above reported. Total amount of track torn up, eight miles and three-quarters. The work was all thoroughly done, the ties being burned and the rails so twisted they can be made of no service, and are worthless.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Fogle's Plantation, S. C., February 10, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. WOODS,
Commanding First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The Third Division will move this afternoon to the position now occupied by Major-General Hazen, preparatory to crossing the river in the morning. Please extend your pickets around on the right flank, beyond where General John E. Smith's camp was, so as to cover that flank and the headquarters of General Sherman. General Smith will move out at 3 o'clock, and the general commanding desires you to complete the destruction of the road, as the working parties from the Third Division will be withdrawn at that hour.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FIELD ORDERS.] HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., February 10, 1865.

This division will leave camp at 6 a. m. to-morrow, February 11. Bvt. Brig. Gen. William B. Woods will move out in the advance on the Holman's Bridge road (the one leading through the camp of the division), followed by the battery, usual trains, and the Second Brigade. Colonel Stone, commanding the Third Brigade, will protect the trains with two of his regiments, marching the remaining three in rear. He

will also send a company to these headquarters one-half hour before the column moves out (5.30) to receive instructions for provost duty during the day.

By order of Brevet Major-General Woods:

FRED. H. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Reveille will sound at these headquarters at 3.30 a. m.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Fogle's Plantation, S. C., February 10, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. B. HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: In accordance with instructions from Major-General Howard, you will please cross the Twenty-ninth Missouri Mounted Infantry over Holman's Bridge as soon as possible, and push them out on the direct road as far as Bull Fight Pond, to ascertain if the enemy have any force on the road, and the character of the road itself that far. When this information is obtained you may withdraw the mounted infantry.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
Holman's Bridge, S. C., February 10, 1865—7 p. m.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that in obedience to orders I moved my division across the South Edisto at 4 p. m. to-day, after preparing the crossing, and am now camped with earth-works covering the front on the Columbia road half a mile from the swamp. I have two regiments on the Orangeburg road, also intrenched. My headquarters is on the Columbia road.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIV., FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Holman's Bridge Cross-Roads, S. C., February 10, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: In compliance with Special Orders, No. 41, dated headquarters Fifteenth Army Corps, February 10, 1865, I have the honor to submit the following report of operations of this command this day: The First Brigade, General W. T. Clark commanding, being charged with the destruction of a portion of the South Carolina Railroad track, completely destroyed two and a half miles of the same east of Blackville. The division broke camp at 3 o'clock this p. m., and marched three and a half miles to this point, and is now situated as follows: The First Brigade is encamped in line north of and parallel with the main Charleston and Savannah road, its right resting on the direct

Holman's Bridge road. The Second Brigade is encamped in line east of and parallel with the direct Holman's Bridge road, its left resting on the main Charleston and Savannah road. These headquarters are established on the Holman's Bridge road, about 200 yards south of the intersection of the same with the Charleston and Savannah road.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Fogle's Plantation, S. C., February 10, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. JOHN M. CORSE,
Commanding Fourth Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The object of to-morrow's movement will be to reach Bull Fight Pond with the whole corps. The general commanding requests that you will break camp at 5 a. m. (the 11th instant) and move on the direct road to Holman's Bridge. There cross the Edisto River and make as many miles as you can in the direction of the point indicated. You will follow General Woods' column, and will have a good road from the railroad to the river.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 13.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., February 10, 1865.

1. The troops of this division will march at 6 a. m. to-morrow, the 11th instant, on the Blackville road, in the following order, viz:

1. Second Brigade Infantry, with its train, throwing one regiment in rear of battery and train.

2. Trains in same order as directed for the 10th instant.

3. Third Brigade Infantry, Colonel Hurlbut commanding, who will move his regiments by the side of the trains, so disposed as to guard closely the supply and ordnance trains.

4. First Brigade Infantry, General Rice commanding, who will take the necessary precaution to prevent straggling, and especially the unauthorized firing by soldiers.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Binnaker's Bridge, S. C., February 10, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general desires you to reconnoiter up the first left-hand road as far as the road leading back to Holman's Bridge, if possible, and report the character of the road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 37. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Near Binnaker's Bridge, S. C., February 10, 1865.*

The following are the orders for to-morrow:

1. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will have the advance, and will move his command forward at 7 a. m. on the Binnaker's Bridge and Orangeburg road.

2. Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will follow the Third Division, moving forward at 7.30 a. m.

3. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will follow the Fourth Division, being prepared to move at 9 a. m.

4. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel Hughes commanding, will move in advance of the column, crossing the river at 6.30 a. m.

5. Department and corps headquarters trains will follow the troops of the Third Division, provided they are across the river in time.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 12. } HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, S. C., February 10, 1865.*

I. All men whose term of service expires while the army is without communication and cannot, therefore, be sent home, are advised to remain on duty as usual, thus drawing pay, rations, &c., until such time as they can be mustered out and sent home. Those who have already been mustered out, or may be hereafter, will report at these headquarters, to be organized and fed and used for such duty as the general commanding may direct.

II. Brigade and regimental commanders may put such soldiers as desire it, whose term of service has expired but who still continue on duty, on such detached service as requires a soldier to fill, relieving them from further duty as combatants.

By order of Brig. Gen. Giles A. Smith:

AD. WARE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Salkehatchie River, S. C., February 10, 1865—7.30 p. m.

Captain DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Left Wing:

CAPTAIN: Your communication conveying the general's order for my corps to move from Barnwell to Williston was received at dark. My troops, after completing their second day's march of twenty miles, are encamped as follows: Baird at Barnwell, Carlin four, and Morgan seven miles south of this place. I shall make every effort to reach the railroad by to-morrow night, and will commence destroying it at once. The orderlies directed to be detailed will be sent as soon as practicable.

I have heard of no mail for your headquarters with my command, but will make special inquiry, and should any be found it will be forwarded at once.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JEF. C. DAVIS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD DIV., FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Barnwell, February 10, 1865.

Lieut. Col. A. C. MCCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, &c.:

COLONEL: Please say to the general commanding that I have two brigades beyond Turkey Creek, about half a mile from this town, and one this side of the creek. I have also Colonel Bishop and his regiment in town keeping order and guarding the families that remain. All is very quiet and orderly. The rascally proceeding of some stragglers in opening the dam above our crossing caused my last brigade to wade over in quite deep water, but I think it will run down during the night. I think my road to Williston should be the one beyond Turkey Creek. The roads on both sides of the creek are good; distance to Williston, thirteen miles. I am out of rations to-night, and would like to have a few wagons with bread and coffee come forward to join me during the day to-morrow, if I march before the whole train arrives. I will be on hand to receive your orders in the morning.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. BAIRD,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Division.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Blackville, S. C., February 10, 1865.

The movements of this command to-morrow will be as follows:

The First Division will suspend work on the railroad and march at an early hour to Duncan's Bridge over the Edisto River, and will cross and camp on the north side. The Second Division, with the engineer troops, will, after completing the work on the bridge, cross the river and encamp. The trains in the following order, viz: First Division; corps supply train. Third Division cavalry train will march, starting at 7 a. m., and cross the river at Duncan's Bridge. The Second Brigade, Second Division, will escort the trains. The Third Division, with the five companies of engineer troops, will continue the work of destroying the railroad until they are relieved by the Fourteenth Corps, when the engineer troops will report to Major-General Davis for duty with the Fourteenth Corps, and General Ward will march his troops by the most direct road to Duncan's Bridge, crossing the river there, and rejoin the corps. If the corps should have moved from there he will follow, and rejoin it as soon as possible. The artillery will march at the head of the trains.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Blackville, S. C., February 10, 1865.

Brig. Gen. W. T. WARD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The inclosed order* is modified as follows: The general commanding directs that you march at an early hour to-morrow morning to Guignard's Bridge over the Edisto River, taking with you the five companies of engineer troops now with you, repair the bridge at that point, cross your command, and march down on the north side of the river to join the corps. After completing the bridge the engineer troops are to be sent back to Williston, to report for duty to General Davis, commanding Fourteenth Corps. That part of the corps now here will cross the river to-morrow at Duncan's Bridge and push forward to the North Fork of the Edisto. The general desires that you will follow the corps as fast as possible, and rejoin it as soon as you possibly can.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY COMMAND,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Johnson's Turnout, February 10, 1865—11 a. m.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Military Division of the Mississippi:

MAJOR: I have advanced as far as this point in direction of Aiken. Have just driven out a brigade of rebel cavalry, and find that Wheeler has concentrated the majority of his troops at Aiken, and is now in line of battle, barricading his position two miles this side of Aiken. We have had considerable skirmishing, but nothing more. This is a splendid country; plenty of forage and supplies. The enemy now believe that we are marching on Augusta; such, at least, is the impression among the citizens. Anderson's division crossed Cook's Bridge last evening, and passed this point. Wheeler's command is at this moment passing up from the direction of the river to my front and forming lines at a trot. I will not attack until I hear further from you. No better opportunity ever offered to break Wheeler up; but as he may have supports of infantry I do not consider it prudent to attack. Could he now be driven back and Aiken captured we could secure a large amount of provisions, needed by my command, and I think a wrong [impression] be produced upon the minds of the enemy which he could not correct until it would be entirely too late. If you will send me a brigade of infantry from the Twentieth Army Corps, which must now be this side of Blackville and consequently less than a day's march from this point, I will render Wheeler powerless to even annoy your flank or wagon trains again during the campaign. Major-General Slocum offered me a brigade of infantry when I left him at Sister's Ferry. I wish now that I had taken it. The brigade asked for will not delay or interfere at all with your plans already mentioned. I can march at any moment with it to the Edgefield road, via Cook's Bridge, and be in constant communication with the Fourteenth Army Corps, which I understand will not reach White Pond for two or three days.

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* See next, *ante*.

I hope, general, that the suggestion in this communication contained will meet with your approval, and that you will give me an opportunity of disposing of Wheeler's command. I will break road until I am attacked, in which case you can rest easy as to the result.

Very respectfully,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, February 10, 1865.

General KILPATRICK,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Your note from Johnson's is just received. I cannot change my plans now, as they are in progress. I don't care about Aiken, unless you can take it by a dash, and as Wheeler's attention is drawn to that quarter you can let it work. To-morrow the Right Wing moves on Orangeburg, and after breaking that railroad good we will proceed as heretofore indicated. Davis should be at Williston to-night or early to-morrow; keep in communication with him and conform to his movements. It won't pay to have infantry chasing Wheeler's cavalry; it is always a bad plan, and is injurious to detach infantry, save for a day or a single occasion. You can see Davis when he comes up, and he can spare a brigade for a day or so, but I don't want a brigade of infantry to go off to the flank when the whole army would have to wait for it, or it would be marched to death to catch up. Wheeler, or a part of his command, was on the north side of the South Edisto yesterday, and the concentration of the enemy is being made at Columbia, though I have no doubt that attention has been drawn toward Augusta, but I will not delay the main move an hour, and therefore want Davis to move on as soon as he can repair the bridge. Slocum will give him his orders, and I wish you to conform to the movements of the left corps; give it notice of danger from the direction of Augusta, and only attack Wheeler when he exposes himself. When operating near General Davis' corps he will doubtless let you have a brigade of infantry from time to time, but not as a permanent thing.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, VA., *February 10, 1865—9 a. m.*
(Received 9.30 a. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Washington:

The following has just been received from General Palmer, addressed to you:

FEBRUARY 8, 1865—9 p. m.

The troops of Meagher's division are just arriving at Morehead. They have no transportation.

R. C. WEBSTER,
Colonel and Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Federal Point, N. C., February 10, 1865.

Colonel WRIGHT,
Comdg. Railroad Construction Corps, Beaufort Harbor, N. C.:

COLONEL: I have learned since my arrival here that you were here a few days ago, and I presume you have gone to Beaufort, which is well. General Palmer will advance on the New Berne and Goldsborough Railroad very soon, and endeavor to get possession of the crossings of the Neuse River. Please confer with General Palmer and be prepared to put the railroad in running order as far as he may advance, and as rapidly as possible. The necessary rolling stock will probably have to be brought from Washington. I shall endeavor to get possession of Wilmington and the railroad from that place to Goldsborough by the 5th of March, or earlier if possible. I hope to be able to use both the railroad from Wilmington and also the one from Beaufort. Most probably the Wilmington road will require repairs as soon as we get possession of it, so please be prepared to bring a force here on short notice.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Federal Point, N. C., February 10, 1865.

Colonel DODGE,
Acting Chief Quartermaster:

COLONEL: You will at once make requisition upon the Quartermaster-General for 400,000 rations of forage for the use of General Sherman's army. Also 20,000 pairs of shoes. These supplies will be shipped to Beaufort Harbor, N. C., where the vessels will await orders. The vessels should be of light draft, so as to be able to enter Beaufort Harbor or Cape Fear River, as may be desired. They should be at Beaufort by the 25th of this month. These supplies will be in addition to those required by the troops of this department. Send duplicates of your requisitions to the chief quartermaster at General Grant's headquarters, City Point, Va.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 1. } ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 10, 1865.

I. The following movements will be made to-morrow, commencing at 8 a. m., viz:

General Terry will advance his line and make a strong demonstration upon the enemy's position east of Cape Fear River.

General Cox will support General Terry, and be prepared to take advantage of any success which may be gained.

It is not expected to gain possession of the enemy's works. Nevertheless, if the demonstration develops such weakness at any point of the enemy's line as to indicate that an attack would be successful it will be made at once.

The troops will be provided with three days' rations and a supply of ammunition; and, in the event of success, the enemy will be pushed back as far as Wilmington with vigor.

If it be found impracticable to carry the enemy's line in front of General Terry, the troops will be intrenched near enough to the enemy to threaten his position and maintain a skirmish line in close proximity to the enemy's works. At the same time our own line will be kept as much out of the enemy's view as practicable.

The new line will be made strong as soon as practicable, and the troops not required to hold it will be prepared for other operations.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 11, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Washington, D. C.:

The following, contained in the Dispatch, is all the news from Richmond papers to-day:

The Edisto River is now the line held by General Hardee, in the neighborhood of Branchville. Nearer the coast we hold the line of the Combahee River, in the vicinity of the Charleston and Savannah Railroad. From the most recent authentic intelligence it appears that while a part of Sherman's army is making active demonstrations against Combahee Ferry, near the Charleston and Savannah Railroad, as if with the design of marching on Charleston, the rest of his forces has appeared at four points on the Edisto, viz: At New Bridge, five miles below Branchville; at Binnaker's and Holman's Bridges above and at the railroad bridge opposite that place.

Our troops that hold the bridge over the Salkehatchie, west of Branchville, were driven in on last Wednesday. If he succeeds in forcing a passage of the Edisto above and below Branchville, he will tap the railroad running thence to Columbia and compel our troops to fall back from Branchville, but they will most probably evacuate it, if at any time it shall appear that Sherman cannot be prevented from crossing the river.

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near the Orangeburg Bridge, February 11, 1865—1 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

GENERAL: General Blair's head of column reached here about 11 a. m. He drove a regiment of rebels across the river. He has confronted them with a skirmish line. They have a line of works and two pieces of artillery covering the road. General Force is reconnoitering with a view to turning the position. General Blair has sent his mounted infantry to a crossing below. I have directed General Logan to take care of the one six miles above, called Shilling's Bridge. The rebels have given out that they expect to meet us here with the whole of S. D. Lee's corps. We have not yet discovered any great force.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Orangeburg Bridge, February 11, 1865—8 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

GENERAL: General Force has reconnoitered the swamps, both above and below. He has discovered the extent of the enemy's pickets below, and about a quarter of a mile farther down the river makes over to this side of the swamp. He will prepare a roadway down to the river to-night and throw a pontoon over in the morning. I have directed General Blair to support his batteries with one division, and push over a column, two divisions strong. General Force thinks the enemy have considerable force here, but the demonstration of the mounted infantry at Rowe's Bridge and General Logan's resolute operations above will, I think, enable us to succeed at this point. I send you a paper of the 9th which contains some items of interest. Slocum's movement on Columbia, if he really makes it, will make them let go here or there.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 36.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Poplar Spring, S. C., February 11, 1865.

The following movements of this command will commence at 7 a. m. to-morrow: Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair, commanding Seventeenth Army Corps, continuing his reconnaissance at Rowe's Bridge, will force a passage of the North Fork at whatever point from reports received from reconnaissances above or below the road that he may think best. Maj. Gen. J. A. Logan, commanding Fifteenth Army Corps, will move to Shilling's Bridge, endeavor to effect a crossing of the South Fork in that vicinity, and will move across Caw Caw Swamp directly upon Orangeburg. The bridge train will move at daylight, and closing up will park in this vicinity ready for use. The section with General Logan will remain with his column.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Poplar Spring, February 11, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your order directing the movement on Shilling's Bridge, and the passage of the Edisto at that point, and would respectfully inquire whether it is designed to cross my command with all my transportation, or whether I shall make the movement in light order, leaving suitable camp and train guards on this side of the river with my wagons until the success of the crossing and movement on Orangeburg is ascertained? The section of the bridge train is not yet up, and I do not expect it to-night.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Poplar Spring, S. C., February 11, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Your note is received. In reply the general desires me to say that you may use your own judgment in regard to the disposition of your trains, but thinks that it will probably be better to leave them on this side until the passage of Caw Caw Swamp is effected, except such portion of your ammunition train as you think might be needed. The pontoon train is probably on the way up, but may stop with the main portion of the train which followed General Corse over from Holman's Bridge to Poplar Spring. The general desires you to send back and find it, and unless it is already on the road to order such portion of it as you require to join you as soon as you may need it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Hayden's Plantation, S. C., February 11, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: In compliance with Special Orders, No. 41, headquarters Fifteenth Army Corps, I respectfully report the operations of my division to-day, the 11th, as follows: In obedience to your orders I broke camp at 6 a. m., and, moving forward on the Holman's Bridge road, struck General John E. Smith's column about 9 a. m. Following the Third Division over very bad roads, and crossing the South Fork of the Edisto River, I went into camp at 6 o'clock this p. m. at Hayden's plantation, near the Four Mile Swamp, on the road to Orangeburg, and within one mile of Poplar Spring. My troops are camped two brigades front, one on either side the road, facing toward Poplar Spring. My headquarters are at the house of Mr. Hayden, on the main road, near the Four Mile Swamp.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Poplar Spring, S. C., February 11, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that my division broke camp at 7 a. m. to-day and arrived here at 2 p. m., and is now encamped on the left of the road. My headquarters are at a house about 200 yards to the rear of corps headquarters. I have not previously reported that on the 9th, while skirmishing in front of Holman's Bridge, I had 1 man killed and 1 wounded.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Poplar Spring, S. C., February 11, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: In compliance with Special Orders, No. 41, current series, headquarters Fifteenth Army Corps, I have the honor to report that this command broke camp at intersection of Holman's Bridge and Charleston and Savannah roads at 6.30 o'clock this a. m., and marched, crossing the Edisto (South Fork) at Holman's Bridge, to this point, the advance of the column arriving at 4.30 p. m. The division is encamped in line on the right of and covering the Orangeburg road.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Cooper's Plantation, S. C., February 11, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the movements of to-day to be as follows: I left Lee's plantation this morning at 6 o'clock, moved to the point on the Branchville and Augusta Railroad where headquarters Fifteenth Army Corps were, and received orders to cross Binnaker's Bridge instead of Holman's, our destination. Over fair roads I arrived at Binnaker's Bridge at 10.30 a. m.; found the Seventeenth Corps not yet crossed; awaited until about 1 p. m., when I commenced crossing, and finding the road to Orangeburg filled with the Seventeenth Corps train, moved to the left in order to get on the Holman's Bridge road to Poplar Spring, where I struck the Third Division, Fifteenth Corps, at 3.30 p. m. Learning that the First Division was still in its rear I placed the division in bivouac, ready to move at a moment's notice. The rear of the First Division did not pass until about 6.30 p. m., when it became so dark that, I concluded it impracticable to move unless I received further orders from corps headquarters. I have marched about eighteen miles and built 800 yards of corduroy. My pioneer corps joined me late this evening with a loss of 15 men. I await further orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 14.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Cooper's Plantation, S. C., February 11, 1865.

I. In compliance with orders from corps headquarters the following-named officers are hereby detailed to take charge of permanent details for the purpose of collecting forage and subsistence from the country for the use of this command during the present campaign or until further orders: For the First Brigade—Maj. Samuel Mahon, Seventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry; Capt. D. C. Smith, Fifty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry. For the Second Brigade—Capt. David S. Van Pelt, Eighty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry; First Lieut. Perry F. Miller, Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. For the Third Brigade—Capt. Henry Ahern, Seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry; First Lieut.

F. R. Thurber, Thirty-ninth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. Brigade commanders will make details of enlisted men as follows, selecting the best disciplined non-commissioned officers and privates for the duty, to report to the senior officer detailed for their respective commands, viz: Brig. Gen. E. W. Rice (First Brigade), 4 sergeants, 8 corporals, and 88 privates; Col. R. N. Adams (Second Brigade), 3 sergeants, 6 corporals, and 51 privates; Col. F. J. Hurlbut (Third Brigade), 3 sergeants, 7 corporals, and 70 privates. The officers detailed for this duty will be held strictly accountable for the acts of their men. They will be furnished with copies of all orders issued from these and superior headquarters in regard to foraging, discharge of firearms, &c., by their respective brigade commanders. The object of this order is to organize a system of foraging by which our men can be supplied with what they actually need without the destruction of private property or the unauthorized burning of houses, fences, &c. The numerous orders on this subject will be sufficient to guide officers in all cases.

II. The troops composing this division will march at 6 a. m. sharp to-morrow, the 12th instant, to Poplar Spring, in the following order, viz:

1. Third Brigade Infantry, Colonel Hurlbut commanding, with the battery and his own train, one regiment being thrown in rear of same.
2. Trains in same order as to-day, the 11th instant, with above exception.
3. First Brigade Infantry, Brig. Gen. E. W. Rice commanding, who will move his troops by the side of the supply and ordnance trains, instructing his regimental commanders to render every assistance to officers in charge of trains repairing roads as they may require, &c.
4. Second Brigade Infantry, Col. R. N. Adams commanding, who will carry out instructions in regard to stragglers.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Poplar Spring, February 11, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding wishes to know when you will be ready to use the pontoon bridge. It will be ordered up to the front to-night, and he would like to have you designate some point for it to park, so that it may be convenient to get at whenever it may be needed.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. E. STRONG,
Assistant Inspector-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 38. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Orangeburg, S. C., February 11, 1865.

I. In order to provide against a scarcity of provisions and forage hereafter division commanders will cause their wagons, as fast as they become empty, to be filled with meal, flour, potatoes, and meat, and a small proportion of forage for animals.

The amount of subsistence left in each camp during this march, if saved, would have been sufficient to subsist the corps for a day. With proper care and attention the wagons can be kept continually full. One additional wagon will be given to the battery in each division for hauling forage and the rest filled as above ordered.

II. The following are the orders for to-morrow:

1. Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will relieve the skirmishers of the Third Division at daylight, and at the same hour move forward his command to the nearest high ground to the bridge, placing one regiment in position as support to the battery. He will demonstrate strongly against the enemy, as though he intended to force a crossing.

2. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will move his command at an early hour to a point already designated below the bridge and endeavor to effect a crossing.

3. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will be prepared to move to the support of General Force at 7 a. m.

4. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel Hughes commanding, will move at daylight to Rowe's Bridge, and make a strong demonstration against the forces there. as if he intended to cross.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
North Fork Edisto, February 11, 1865.

Capt. C. CADLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the bridge is burned. The pickets heard the rebels at work, but could see nothing, and their fire was ineffective, as the rebels appear to have worked under the bridge. The bridge burst into a sudden flame, as if combustibles had been previously prepared. When it was lighted, one of the party leaped upon the bridge, and was immediately shot. Besides this, at least three other rebels were killed to-day; one near the bridge on the advance and two in the swamp. At least one other was seriously wounded.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. F. FORCE,
Brigadier-General.

A captain and seventeen men, wading half a mile of swamp, felled a tree at a narrow place and crossed the river to dry land. I am inclined to think they crossed above Caw Caw.

WILLISTON, S. C., *February 11, 1865—3 p. m.*

Major-General DAVIS:

GENERAL: I have been sent to this place by General Kilpatrick to request of the officer in command of the infantry, which he supposed I would find at this point, to move up as far as Windsor Station to his support. He has been engaged to-day with a large portion of Wheeler's

command. I find that that portion of the Twentieth Corps which was at this place left this morning, and yours is probably at present the nearest infantry which can be brought to General Kilpatrick's support, provided he needs it. A staff officer of General Slocum's requests me to say that he is here with orders for you. How soon do you think your column will reach this place?

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. DAY,
Captain and Provost-Marshal, Third Cavalry Division.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Duncan's Bridge, S. C., February 11, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow toward Jeffcoat's Bridge, over the North Fork of the Edisto River, as follows: Second Division at 7 a. m., Third Division and cavalry train at 8 a. m., First Division at 9 a. m. In case the trains of the Third Division and cavalry should not cross the river to-night this order of march will be changed and these trains will march in rear of the trains of the First Division. The corps supply train will hereafter, without orders to the contrary, march immediately in rear of the trains of the leading division, and the artillery ammunition trains of the leading division and the artillery ammunition train immediately in rear of the train of the center division. To-morrow General Geary will march one unencumbered brigade as the advance, and General Jackson will detail three regiments as a rear guard. One section of artillery will accompany the rear guard. The balance of the artillery will march in rear of the advance brigade. General Geary will so dispose of his two brigades as to cover the artillery, his own train, and the corps supply train. General Jackson with his division will cover the balance of the train. As soon as possible the chief quartermaster of the corps will subdivide the cavalry train and assign one-third of it to each division, which portions, as long as that train remains with us, will form part of the trains of the respective divisions. The engineer troops with their trains will march immediately in rear of the artillery, starting at 7 a. m.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Stono Inlet, S. C., February 11, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have to report that I assumed command of this department on the evening of the 9th instant. The only operations going on here are diversions ordered by Major-General Sherman, one from Pocotaligo toward Charleston, and the other now about starting from this point to land in Bull's Bay. Brigadier-General Hatch commands the former and Brigadier-General Potter the latter. General Hatch has less than 4,000 men, and the most I can scrape together for General Potter are 1,300. For raids and small expeditions along the coast I desire to

arm a small brigade of about 2,000 men with Spencer rifles, or if the rifles cannot be procured, with Spencer carbines, and I request that the arms may be forwarded to me without delay. I will cause a requisition for them to be made by the ordnance officer as soon as I return to Hilton Head. I had a brigade thus armed in the Tenth Corps, and I never hesitated to set them against two to three times their number. If the entire 2,000 arms cannot be sent at once, a part will answer, even if the lot contains a mixture of rifles and carbines. I attach considerable importance to this matter in the present reduced state of this command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DIST. OF FLORIDA, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
FOURTH SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Jacksonville, Fla., February 11, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. G. FOSTER,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: I beg respectfully to lay before you the following particulars, viz: A few days ago a party under Lieutenant-Colonel Wilcoxson, Seventeenth Connecticut Volunteers, went out after cotton with ten 4-horse teams, and numbering in all 48 men, 4 officers, and 40 horses, all of which were captured, and 1 officer (Lieutenant Chatfield), killed. Since hearing of this report the brigadier-general commanding, on whose staff I have the honor to be serving, has been extremely ill, and I deem it proper to state the fact to you thus privately. Colonel Tilghman has been ordered to Saint Augustine and it leaves the troops at this place for the present under command of a captain. Should anything occur requiring prompt attention I do not believe the general would be capable for at least one week of attending to it. I hope you will pardon the manner of thus informing you of this, but the extreme urgency of the case and the responsible position which I hold here compel me so to do.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

THOMAS J. ROBINSON,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT FISHER, N. C., *February 11, 1865.*
(Received 9.30 a. m., 16th.)

Bvt. Maj. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

I am directed by Major-General Schofield to make requisitions for 400,000 rations of forage and 20,000 pairs of shoes for the use of General Sherman's army. These supplies will be shipped to Beaufort Harbor, where, according to the general's directions, the vessels will await orders. The vessels should be of eleven feet draft, so as to be able to enter Cape Fear River, if desired, and should be at Beaufort by the 25th of this month. These supplies will be in addition to

those required by the troops of this department. I have written more particularly in a communication addressed to you, and which you will probably receive shortly after this is handed to you.

Respectfully, &c.,

GEO. S. DODGE,
Colonel and Chief Quartermaster.

NOTE.—The above dispatch was addressed to "Telegraph Operator," and instead of being delivered at Fort Monroe, was brought to the telegraph office, War Department.

Respectfully, &c.,

THOS. T. ECKERT,
Major and Assistant Superintendent U. S. Military Telegraph.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
Fort Fisher, N. C., February 11, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose herewith a copy of an order received from General Schofield,* in which he desires that 400,000 rations of forage and 20,000 pairs of shoes be forwarded to Beaufort Harbor, for the use of General Sherman's army. As the general suggests, these stores should be shipped only in such light-draft vessels as will be competent to enter the Cape Fear River or Beaufort Harbor, as may [be] deemed advisable. The bar at Beaufort will admit vessels drawing fourteen feet of water, while that at the mouth of the Cape Fear River will allow no vessel of heavier draft than eleven feet to come over it. It would be advisable, therefore, to limit the draft of the vessels in which the above-mentioned supplies will be sent to eleven feet, so as to prevent any detention at the bar of Cape Fear. In addition to such supplies of forage and shoes as General Schofield has directed, would it not be as well to send a vessel having an assorted cargo of whatever clothing, &c., may probably be needed in the army of General Sherman. Please cause these supplies to be forwarded in season to reach Beaufort by the 25th of the present month, and direct that they remain there, subject to the order of General Schofield or myself. I respectfully request that these articles be invoiced in blank for the present, until the arrival of the proper officer to receipt for them. I have this day telegraphed you, via Fortress Monroe, to the same effect as above, and forward this communication as explanatory of my action.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. S. DODGE,
Colonel and Chief Quartermaster.

SIGNAL STATION, *February 11, 1865—8.05 p. m.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

Colonel Dodge has gone to see you. If no troops are landed to-night in the steamers the mules can be landed by the steamer Howard.

LAMB,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

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* See 10th, p. 384.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 2. } ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 11, 1865.

I. Lieut. Col. R. B. Treat, chief commissary of subsistence Twenty-third Army Corps, is hereby temporarily assigned to duty as acting chief commissary of subsistence of this department.

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III. Lieut. Col. J. F. Boyd, chief quartermaster Twenty-third Army Corps, will proceed to Washington, D. C., for the purpose of organizing field transportation for the Twenty-third Army Corps and forwarding necessary quartermaster's supplies. Colonel Boyd will return to these headquarters as soon as he has completed the duty assigned him.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Federal Point, N. C., February 11, 1865.

Brig. Gen. I. N. PALMER, *New Berne, N. C.:*

GENERAL: I hope General Meagher's troops have reached you by this time, and that you will be able to advance very soon. I shall commence operations here immediately, without waiting for the arrival of the remainder of my troops. The object to be accomplished is to secure a new base and depot of supplies for General Sherman. This must be accomplished by the 5th, or if possible by the 1st, of March. He desires it at Goldsborough, or as near that point as possible. I shall endeavor to take Wilmington as soon as possible, and then advance rapidly toward Goldsborough, so as to secure possession of the railroad before the enemy can destroy it. I desire you at the same time to get possession of the railroad crossing of Neuse River, when we will operate in concert against Goldsborough, if it be deemed practicable to take that place before General Sherman arrives. Make your advance as soon as you can get ready, and if you succeed in getting possession of the river crossing intrench it strongly. In any event, intrench and hold the most advanced point you find practicable, and have the railroad repaired from New Berne to your advanced position as soon as possible. General Sherman's railroad construction corps, under Colonel Wright, was here on the steamer Baltic a short time before I arrived. I presume they have gone to Beaufort. I will send Colonel Wright instructions to confer with you, and commence his work as soon as you are ready for him. My chief quartermaster and commissary have been ordered to provide supplies for General Sherman's army, to be shipped to Beaufort Harbor, but to remain on board the vessels until we determine, by the result of operations, whether to use this harbor or Beaufort, or both. I sent you a brief dispatch containing the substance of this from Fort Monroe by the steamer Nereus. I have not yet heard from her, and fear some accident has befallen her. At the same time I also ordered a pontoon train to come to this place. If it has not already started, please send it at once. Please keep me advised of the state of affairs in your command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

[FEBRUARY 12, 1865]—1.50 p. m.

[Major DAYTON:]

Seventeenth Corps has just carried the crossing of North Edisto and I am waiting for the bridge to be repaired to go into Orangeburg. Notify Logan. Write to Slocum as soon as Davis communicates with Kilpatrick to move on Columbia. Let him secure at once the crossing of North Edisto.

SHERMAN,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 12, 1865.*

Major DAYTON:

I will stay at Howard's headquarters to-night and overtake you in the morning. Logan will move straight for Columbia. The Seventeenth Corps will break railroad to-morrow up as far as the State road and then turn toward Columbia. Keep behind Logan's leading division and I will overtake you.

SHERMAN,
Major-General.

[FEBRUARY 12, 1865.]

[Major DAYTON:]

Follow leading division Fifteenth Corps. We are not certain as to the road—whether there is a road to the west of Caw Caw. I will see Howard in the morning and get to the head of the Fifteenth Corps.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HILTON HEAD, *February 12, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

HONORABLE SIR: I arrived inside the Federal lines Thursday, 9th instant, 7 p. m. I will write you the most important news I know. I left Milledgeville the 25th of November last on horseback. I came as far as Mayfield (on Ogeechee River, in the edge of Warren County), and there got on board the cars and came to Augusta. I arrived at that place the 28th of November. Augusta was in a great excitement at that time. They moved all the machinery and powder works over to South Carolina, and General Fry, in command of Augusta, stopped all the factories, and sent the men, with the rest of the home guards, down on Brier Creek, twenty miles from Augusta, to defend the city at that place, and if they were repulsed there, Augusta was to be evacuated and then surrendered. There were 3,000 men sent on Brier Creek at Ellison's Bridge, and all the rest of the forces were sent through South Carolina to Savannah, which was about 5,000. The powder works are one mile and a half up the river from Augusta. They wet all the powder at the powder works during the excitement. There is a breast-work for infantry thrown up a mile long out around the powder works, and at each end of it is a battery thrown up, and four guns on each battery. There is but one battery ranging across the river toward South Carolina; that is at the foot of the bridge, to protect it; it has four guns. There are four other batteries planted about one-fourth of a mile outside the city, extending from the factory

out around the Waynesborough and Atlanta depot and other Government shops and beyond the cemetery. The cemetery is below the city, in the edge of the suburbs. All the batteries have four guns on them. The authorities said they would not let the city be burned, and for that reason they defend the city at Brier Creek and Branchville, and if repulsed, will surrender the city sooner than have it burned.

I remained in Augusta and out fifteen miles on the Waynesborough road, at first one place and then another, for two weeks. Then I came to Warren County and remained until the 1st of January, 1865. I went to Milledgeville and remained there three days. During that time I saw about 200 wagons or more, all going to Gordon to haul supplies to Mayfield to be sent by railroad to North Carolina and Virginia. They say if Branchville is taken the armies in that section of the country will suffer greatly for provisions. I saw about 1,000 or 1,200 infantry under General D. H. Hill and himself and staff pass through Milledgeville; they said they were going to West Georgia. On the 5th of January I came to Jefferson County, near the edge of Warren County; 20th of January I returned to Augusta in a country wagon with some neighbors. I crossed at Ellison's Bridge over Brier Creek. It is fortified on the north side. There is a long row of breast-works thrown up for infantry. About 100 yards from the swamp (the swamp is half a mile wide) I saw eight pieces of artillery standing beyond the infantry battery. There are about 1,000 or 1,200 soldiers there. General Thomas was in command at Ellison's Bridge when I crossed on 20th January. I returned to Jefferson County, and on the 30th January my son, twelve years old, and myself started out on foot for Savannah. Where I started from was six miles beyond Fenn's Bridge, in Jefferson County (which you burned on Sunday after you left Milledgeville), to Louisville, then to Waynesborough, then to Thomas' Bridge on Brier Creek. The next crossing below Ellison's is Thomas' Bridge. It is torn up. There is a fortification on the upper side only for cannon. They have nine guns mounted there and about 200 men. The pickets set me across the creek in a skiff. Then I took the lower Savannah and Augusta road and went to Mill Haven, eighteen miles. There is a pontoon bridge there. It is fortified with both artillery and infantry. There are about 1,200 or 1,500 soldiers here in all. They have an infantry breast-works thrown up on each side the road. The breast-works are very high, and beyond that I counted six pieces of artillery. The pickets told me they were looking for the Yankees hourly, and I had best put off going over home. After I crossed over I recrossed again and told them I was afraid to go any farther. Then I came ten miles up to Godfrey's Bridge. It is torn up also. There is a high breast-work for infantry, near one-fourth of a mile long, and just beyond that is the artillery. I saw nine pieces of artillery there. There are about 1,200 soldiers there. General Williams is in command. The pickets set me over in a skiff. I kept the lower road until I crossed Beaver Dam, a small creek. I took the Middle Ground road to Sylvania. At Sylvania there are 1,200 soldiers. General Iverson is in command. They are stationed there and sent out in squads of 25 or 100 to do picket duty. The last line of pickets is stationed on Copper Branch, ten miles from Whitesville and twenty miles from Sylvania. All his force is cavalry. All the soldiers in this part of the country are men from Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Alabama. They came to those points, they say, to prevent being cut off from their homes and supplies. General Ferguson is in command at Mill Haven. His men

are cavalry, though the most of them are dismounted. When I was at Augusta last there were two gun-boats anchored just below the bridge. I heard it rumored that Hood's army was near Augusta and coming on. I did not see a man from Hood's army. I saw and read a letter myself from one of Hood's men to his wife, an acquaintance of mine. It was dated January 5, 1865, from Tupelo, Miss. He wrote that Hood's army was cut all to pieces. There was not a horse saved. They lost all their cannon, but saved the carriages which bore up the guns. He also said Hood had given up his command to Dick Taylor. He said he had a plenty of everything to eat, and their winter quarters was at Tupelo, Miss., and she should address him there. That is the last true account I have. The railroad between Macon and Mayfield is being rapidly repaired. When I came within a mile of Copper Branch, where the pickets were, I cut across to the Forty-four Mile Post on railroad and came to Savannah.

NORA WINDER AND HER SON.

GENERAL: I am very sorry I could [not] come to you sooner. The young man who was to hand me the money the day I left Milledgeville forgot to do so, and consequently I had to work my way a part of the time. Weaving pays well in the Confederacy, and I am a splendid weaver; so I stopped in Warren County and Jefferson County and wove for families, and by that means I paid my son's and my own way to Savannah, though we had to walk; though if we had been riding we would have been suspected by the pickets, and as we were walking we were never suspected to be going farther than five or seven miles. I came to you soon as I could under those circumstances, having to work my way back. I would like to go to New Orleans as soon as possible. I cannot go until the commander of the post at this place hears from you. I have no means to go on. I have my only child with me. He is in his twelfth year. I want him to go to New Orleans with me.

Your obedient,

NORA WINDER.

N. B.—Wheeler's cavalry is in South Carolina, following after you as they did in Georgia.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 37.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Orangeburg, S. C., February 12, 1865.

* * * * * * *

II. The next movement of this command will be as follows: The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will march toward Sandy Run Post-office, making sufficient distance so as to reach that point on the 14th instant. He will take roads on either side, or both if practicable, of Caw Caw Swamp. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair, will break the railroad as far north as the State road and send his mounted infantry to burn trestle-work and culverts beyond and endeavor to force the enemy to burn the railroad bridge over the Congaree River. On reaching the State road he will turn to the left and march toward Sandy Run Post-Office, endeavoring to be within four or five miles of that point on the evening of the 14th instant. The bridge train will continue as at present. That part of it with the Fifteenth Army Corps will follow one of the divisions of that corps; that

part of it with the Seventeenth Army Corps will follow one of the divisions of that corps. Department headquarters will move with the Fifteenth Army Corps, leaving here at 9 a. m. to-morrow.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 12, 1865—10.30 a. m.

General HOWARD:

I am trying to cross Hazen at Shilling's, demonstrating at a point one mile and a half above and the same distance below. The enemy seem to be strong enough to make strong resistance. We are making rafts under fire.

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 12, 1865—11 a. m.

Major-General HOWARD:

GENERAL: We have one regiment across the river one mile and a half below Shilling's Bridge, and I am crossing other troops at that point.

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Orangeburg, S. C., February 12, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I wish to move your corps to the point marked Sandy Run Post-Office (on some maps, Sandy Run Meeting House) by a two days' march. The direct road on the eastern bank of Caw Caw Swamp from Orangeburg is open to you, and I think you can find another road between Caw Caw Swamp and Livingstone Creek, running into the other. You can use both roads if you wish. General Blair will break the railroad as far as the State road, and turning to the left will proceed to Sandy Run Post-Office. Send one division at least by the most direct route you can find to the road above mentioned on the east side of Caw Caw Swamp. I wish to follow that division with my headquarters. I will send an officer to you to consult with you in order that my headquarters may start at the right time. I will issue a field order this evening, but do not wait for it. Base your order of march on this letter.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Camp near Shilling's Bridge, S. C., February 12, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that this division left camp at 7 o'clock this morning, expecting to follow Brig. Gen. John E. Smith's command, but taking a different and out-of-the-way road it went into camp about 1 o'clock this p. m., within three-quarters of a mile of Shilling's Bridge over the North Edisto, on the road leading to that crossing. My command is camped on the right of the road looking toward the river, with one brigade back on the Orangeburg. My headquarters are near the road.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Orangeburg, S. C., February 12, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that my division broke camp at 7 a. m. to-day and marched four miles to the South Edisto River, where two regiments were deployed as skirmishers and pushed down to the river bank, and one sent above and one below that point to find crossings. An enemy was found at the point first approached, which proved to be a small brigade. Trees were felled in the river and a crossing effected, when four regiments were pushed over under command of Col. Wells Jones, Fifty-third Ohio, commanding Second Brigade, and moving upon the right flank of the enemy drove them from their works, capturing fifty-three officers and men. Several others were cut off from their commands and picked up by other commands. Both of the other regiments succeeded perfectly in effecting crossings. The division was pushed over and moved to a point near the Orangeburg and Columbia road, about five miles from the latter place, where it camped for the night. My headquarters are with the troops. My losses to-day were 1 killed and 3 wounded.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Keitt's Plantation, S. C., February 12, 1865—11.45 p. m.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: In compliance with Special Orders, No. 41, headquarters Fifteenth Army Corps, I have the honor to report that this division broke camp at Poplar Spring at 8.30 o'clock this a. m., and marched, crossing North Fork Edisto River at Shilling's Bridge, to this point. The command is encamped in line, the First Brigade, battery, and trains on the right and the Second Brigade on the left of the Orangeburg road, fronting northeast.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, North Bank Edisto River, S. C., February 12, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to make the following report of the movements of my command during the 12th instant. Pursuant to orders from the major-general commanding, I moved my division at 7 a. m., following the First Division of this corps for a distance of seven miles, when I met Captain Klostermann, chief engineer Fifteenth Army Corps, who had instructions from the commanding general to direct my column upon a road to the left. I followed this road for about five miles and bivouacked, with troops well in hand, on the left of the road one mile and a half from North Branch Edisto River, on the left of the First Division of this corps, and in support of Major-General Hazen's command, at this time skirmishing with the enemy on opposite bank of the river, remaining in this position during the day. My command has made a quick march of twelve miles, besides placing considerable corduroy, which, however, did not retard the march of the troops, and made camp at 12 m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 39. HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Orangeburg, S. C., February 12, 1865.

The following are the orders for to-morrow:

1. Bvt. Maj. Gen. Giles A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will move his command forward at 7 a. m. on the road running along the railroad to a point seven miles and a half from Orangeburg, where he will begin the destruction of the railroad and continue it until he strikes the State road.

2. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will follow the Fourth Division until he reaches a point three miles and a half from Orangeburg, from whence he will destroy the railroad to where General Smith commences. After completing the work assigned he will move forward and encamp near the junction of the State road and the railroad.

3. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will commence the destruc ion of the road in the town and destroy up to the point where General Mower commences, burning the depot and railroad buildings, if not already done. He will leave the regiment now doing provost duty in the town until everything has moved out, with instructions to arrest all stragglers and hold them for punishment. After completing his work he will move forward and encamp with the command.

4. The bridge train will move next after the First Division.

5. The destruction of the road will be as complete as possible.

6. Each division commander will move his train forward to the designated camp with a guard of two regiments.

7. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will move across the river at daylight and will protect the right flank of the line of march.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Shilling's Bridge, February 12, 1865.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding:

GENERAL: I am just in receipt of a dispatch from General Sherman, who is at the crossing of Orangeburg, and says the Seventeenth Corps has effected a lodgment, and he is waiting for the bridge to be laid in order to go into Orangeburg. He also directs that as soon as General Davis communicates with Kilpatrick you will move on Columbia. He wants you to secure a crossing of North Edisto at once. The Fifteenth Corps has a crossing at this place now.

I am, &c.,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 12, 1865—4.30 p. m.*

General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: Move on Columbia with your two corps. Keep to the left of the Sand Hills. Howard will reach railroad to-morrow toward Columbia, and follow. I will attend the Fifteenth Corps west of Caw Caw Swamp. No road is laid down, but there must be one. We will all be across Edisto to-night. Try and communicate with me the day after to-morrow. Get your left flank on Saluda about the factory.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 8.

HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Weatherston's Plantation, S. C.,
February 12, 1865—5 a. m.

General Baird will at once move his division by the most direct road to Johnson's Station (leaving the pontoniers now with him at this point), and will then commence and proceed east, tearing up the railroad.

General Kilpatrick (unless otherwise ordered) will support and cover General Baird while engaged in this work.

General Carlin will move immediately upon the railroad at a point about six or seven miles west of Williston, and will destroy the road to that place.

General Morgan will conduct his division, with the trains of the corps, direct through Williston, and push on toward Guignard's Bridge.

The detachment First Michigan Engineers, now on the railroad, will report to Generals Carlin and Baird, and assist them in the destruction of the railroad.

The greatest possible dispatch will be used in the execution of these movements, as it is important that the commands press on immediately.

Corps headquarters will be along the railroad during the day, and to-night at Williston.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Williston, S. C., February 12, 1865.

Brig. Gen. J. D. MORGAN,
Commanding Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you push on at an early hour in the morning and park all your trains in a good and secure position on the other side of the South Fork of the Edisto and there await orders. General Davis, with General Carlin's division, will reach you during the morning. Your attention is called to the necessity of closely guarding the dam above the bridge, which you are probably already doing.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. C. McCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
February 12, 1865.

Major-General SLOCUM:

GENERAL: The bridge is finished and the Second Division is moving forward. The enemy have withdrawn. We will commence crossing the trains as soon as Geary has pushed out far enough.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Pocotaligo, S. C., February 12, 1865—1.30 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE,
Commanding Department:

The enemy, fearing a flank attack, evacuated the works at Combahee Ferry last night. They were occupied by Colonel Marple at 8 a. m. My advance had reached Combahee Creek, where the enemy are preparing to make a stout resistance. I did not intend going farther, as I was compelled to guard both flanks, and my command is so small that it was very dangerous should an enemy appear in force. I made day before yesterday and yesterday a demonstration toward crossing Cuckold Creek at two different points. The route from Combahee is only two miles farther than Ashepoo than from Cuckold Creek. By night I will have finished the complete destruction of the railroad and trestles for six miles. I shall fall back part of the way to-night, re-enforce Combahee Ferry, and make my next advance from there. The work at Salkehatchie bridge I am having changed to a tête-de-pont, and will hold it. I should have more troops to make this demonstration effective.

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Morris Island, S. C., February 12, 1865.

Lieutenant-Colonel BENNETT,
Commanding Post, Morris Island, S. C.:

COLONEL: You will fire ten shots at the city during this afternoon and twenty during the night. You will give orders that all of the enemy's steamers in Charleston Harbor which can be reached by our artillery, or which may appear at the Mount Pleasant Wharf, shall be fired upon. The latter place and Mount Pleasant itself will be carefully watched.

By order of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig:

J. W. DICKINSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 12, 1865.

Rear-Admiral D. D. PORTER,
Commanding North Atlantic Squadron:

ADMIRAL: If the wind continues favorable I intend to turn the enemy's position to-night by crossing Masonborough Sound, about two miles below the inlet. I propose to send a brigade of troops outside, in small steamers, with my pontoon boats and such small boats as you can furnish me. Let them land and haul the boats over the beach into the sound and thus cross to the mainland. The main portion of the troops will march up the beach to the point of crossing. I would like about thirty boats from the navy with strong crews, also the steam tug Wilderness, with the pilot who went with General Comstock yesterday. It is also important to have a strong naval force outside to cover the landing. I would like to have the boats report to General Comstock at the wharf at 4 o'clock this p. m. The men should be provided with two or three days' rations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 3. } ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 12, 1865.

I. The following movement will be made with a view to turn the enemy's position east of Cape Fear River, and open the way to Wilmington:

One brigade of General Ames' division of General Terry's corps will embark on light-draft steamers at the Federal Point Wharf, and move outside to a point on the beach about two miles south of Masonborough Inlet, where the troops will land. The remainder of General Ames' division, and General Cox's division of the Twenty-third Corps, will march along the sea-beach to the point of landing.

The pontoons, thirty in number, and about the same number of navy boats, will be towed by the steamers to the point of landing, when they

will be landed and hauled across the beach into Masonborough Sound. This being accomplished, the troops will cross in the small boats to the mainland.

The portion of the expedition which moves by sea is placed under the immediate command of Brigadier-General Comstock, whose orders will be strictly obeyed by all. The commanding general will accompany the main body of the troops, and will give orders for movements against the enemy after a landing is effected.

The boats will all be at the wharf at 4 o'clock this p. m. and report to General Comstock for orders. The troops to move by boat will report at the wharf at dark. The main body of the troops will march as soon as it is dark enough to conceal their movements from the enemy.

The utmost silence must be preserved by the troops during the movement, and on no account will fires be made or lights exhibited, either in the boats or ashore, by which the enemy might detect the movement. No straggling must be permitted.

The men will be supplied with three days' rations, and as much ammunition as they can carry on their persons. The officers should also carry with them three days' rations.

General Terry with the portion of his troops not included in this expedition will press the enemy closely, commencing at daylight in the morning, and will follow him vigorously if he gives way, or attack him if he weakens his line so much as to justify it.

The troops will carry with them a good supply of intrenching tools.

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By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MEMORANDUM.] FORT FISHER, *February 12, 1865.*

First. It is proposed to-night to send Daggett's brigade and Slosson's engineers, thirty pontoons, and some navy boats, to a point three miles south of Masonborough Inlet, called Big Hill; land them, haul the boats across to Myrtle Sound by hand; launch them and ferry across a column of troops which will move along beach to the same point. The gun-boat Wilderness will lead. The engineer troops must be afloat by dusk and follow her; the other troops to get afloat as soon as possible after dusk and follow, without other orders, the Wilderness to the point mentioned. Each steamer will tow some pontoons. The commanding officer will watch the pontoons carefully to see they are not injured. Will allow no lights on steamers, and no noise or lights whatever after landing. On arriving at Big Hill the navy boats, if on hand, will disembark the troops at once, the engineers going in the pontoons; if not, the pontoons will be used for all the troops.

Second. The troops will be formed on the shore, excepting engineers, as fast as they land. If pontoons are not needed for disembarking, as soon as some companies are formed the pontoons will be moved back from the beach firmly on to the marsh grass, the landing being made near a hole through the sand-hill. It is expected everybody will get wet.

Third. Before starting across marsh a line of guides must be placed; then move pontoons, hauling them by ropes half way across marsh. Number of men to a boat to be found by trial.

Fourth. Move pontoons to edge of sand and launch them, building wharf, if needed, of pontoon boats.

Fifth. Send first detachment across, manning pontoons with engineer soldiers, who will return at once for another load. Soldiers must, if banks are shoal, wade to get into and out of boats, and there must be no delay. An engineer officer must see to this on each shore. If hauling lines would save time, put two across—one for boats going, the other returning.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutentant-Colonel, Aide-de-Camp, and Brevet Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 13, 1865—11.30 p. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Richmond Whig of to-day contains the following:

CHARLESTON, *February 10.*

A force of the enemy, believed to be from 2,000 to 3,000 strong, landed at Grimball's, James Island, at 8 o'clock this morning, and drove in our pickets. Some skirmishing took place, but no general engagement. Grimball's is on the Stono River, about two miles southwest of Charleston, the Ashley River, 2,000 yards wide, intervening. The enemy are making active demonstrations at various points, but they are believed to be feints. A force attacked our troops on the Salkehatchie this morning, but were easily repulsed. They also advanced upon the Charleston road near the Blue House, and opened with artillery, but made no impression on our lines. Intelligence from the road to-day reports that the enemy crossed the Edisto at Binnaker's Bridge. The enemy are moving on Edisto.

THE LATEST FROM THE SOUTH.—SHERMAN'S MOVEMENT.

It will be remembered that on Friday, the 4th instant, Sherman crossed the Salkehatchie, between Blackstone and Rivers' Bridge, thereby completely outflanking our forces and compelling them to fall back to Branchville. We have since learned that the Yankees forded the river through water waist-deep at Rivers' Bridge. A sharp engagement took place, which lasted several hours, in which General Wheeler's cavalry inflicted severe injury upon the enemy. On the 8th a heavy column of his infantry struck the South Carolina Railroad at Grahamville, about eighteen miles west of Branchville, while Kilpatrick, with a cavalry force, occupied Blackville, on the same road, about nine miles a little northwest of Grahamville. Then a portion of Sherman's column, it was rumored yesterday, moved forward, crossing the South Edisto and flanking Branchville on the west, and advanced to Orangeburg, on the Columbia and Branchville road, sixteen miles north of the latter point. Orangeburg is a beautiful village of about 1,000 inhabitants, and has been a favorite retreat of refugees from Charleston. It was largely engaged in the manufacture of indigo before the war.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Big Crotchpen Creek, S. C., February 13, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: General Blair has destroyed the railroad to where the State road crosses the same, and also the trestle-work a little farther. He encamps at that intersection to-night. He reports that the enemy have not destroyed forage, cotton, &c., on his road. I have directed

him to let one division work on the railroad till 12 m. to-morrow, and then follow the other two divisions, which will start in the morning with the train.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Crotchpen Swamp Creek, S. C., February 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN, *Comdg. Fifteenth Army Corps:*

GENERAL: I arrived here 1.15 p. m. The column is not far behind. My headquarters will be near a church about twelve miles from Orangeburg and thirteen miles from Sandy Run Post-Office, I think, near Big Crotch Swamp, as marked on the map. Captain Reese will reconnoiter and try to strike your column. The enemy is burning forage, cotton, &c., in our front. If he leaves any cotton don't fail to burn it. I will meet you to-morrow morning at Sandy Run Post-Office, but should you arrive first, please push a division across Sandy Creek so as to give us possession of the mills if the rebels have not destroyed them. I received your report of operations this morning, and congratulate you heartily on your success.*

Yours, respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Rucker's Plantation, S. C., February 13, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that I left camp near Shilling's Bridge at 10 o'clock this a. m. (I crossed to the side of the North Edisto during the night), and following General Corse on the road toward Sandy Run Post-Office until within about one mile and a half from my present camp, I took a road leading me to Rucker's plantation, where I am in camp, about one mile to the left of the main road, facing northwest. My headquarters are near the house of Mrs. Rucker.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Big Crotchpen Creek, S. C., February 13, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report that this division broke camp at 10 a. m. to-day and arrived at this point at 4 p. m. My headquarters are on the main Columbia road, half a mile south of Big Crotchpen Creek. In the affair of yesterday 2 men were killed and 4 wounded. Our captures were 57, comprising several officers.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

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*See extract, Part I, p. 225.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Big Crotchpen Branch, S. C., February 13, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this division broke camp at Keitt's plantation, near North Edisto River, at 6.30 this a. m. and marched, crossing Caw Caw Swamp on the Orangeburg to Orangeburg and Sandy Run Post Office road, thence north to this point, encamping at about 4 p. m. in line of battle, the First Brigade on east side of road, fronting north, and the Second Brigade on the west side, fronting northwest. These headquarters are established upon the west side of the road immediately in rear of Second Brigade; distance marched, seventeen miles.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Little Beaver Creek, S. C., February 13, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to make the following report in regard to the movements of this division to-day, the 13th instant:

Pursuant to orders from the major-general commanding, I broke camp at 5 a. m., crossing North Branch Edisto River, and passing the First Division of the Fifteenth Corps in bivouac; made a short halt to close my column and admit headquarters teams of the Military Division of the Mississippi and corps. From this point I moved forward upon good roads to Little Beaver Creek, a distance of seventeen miles from my point of departure, and where my troops are now in bivouac in a defensible position and strongly picketed.

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 16.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., February 13, 1865.

* * * * * * *

II. The troops composing this division will march at 5 o'clock this a. m. on the direct road to Sandy Run Post-Office in the following order:

1. First Brigade Infantry, General Rice commanding, with its train and Battery H, one regiment thrown in rear of the same.

2. Second Brigade Infantry, Colonel Adams commanding, with his regiments marching by the side of train, extending them so as to best guard the same.

3. Trains in the following order: First, ambulances; second, five wagons of ordnance train; third, supply train; fourth, ordnance train; fifth, brigade trains.

4. Third Brigade Infantry, Colonel Hurlbut commanding, with three regiments in rear of the column and one regiment by the side of the supply train.

The pioneer corps will move invariably in advance of the infantry. Commanding officers of troops and officers in charge of trains will exert themselves to keep the column close and compact during the march.

* * * * * * *

IV. The troops composing this division will march at 7 a. m. to-morrow, the 14th instant, on the direct Orangeburg and Columbia road, in the following order:

1. Second Brigade Infantry, Colonel Adams commanding, with its train and Battery H, one regiment thrown in rear of the same.

2. Third Brigade Infantry, Colonel Hurlbut commanding, with his regiments marching by the side of train, extending them so as to best guard the same.

3. Trains in the following order: First, ambulances; second, five wagons of ordnance train; third, supply train; fourth, ordnance train; fifth, brigade trains.

4. First Brigade Infantry, Brigadier-General Rice commanding, with three regiments thrown in rear of the column, and one regiment by the side of the supply train.

The pioneer corps will move out in advance a few moments before the hour designated.

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By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Whaley's, February 13, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: My command is encamped two miles northwest of the intersection of the State road and railroad. The road has been completely destroyed up to the State road. The rebels are not burning forage or cotton on our line. We destroy all the latter.

Respectfully,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Big Crotchpen Creek, S. C., February 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: General Sherman desires that more work be done on the railroad. The general commanding desires you to continue the destruction of the railroad up to noon to-morrow, and for that purpose you detach one division, allowing it to work up to noon to-morrow, and allowing its transportation to move forward with the other two divisions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 40. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Whaley's Plantation, S. C., February 13, 1865.*

The following are the orders for to-morrow:

1. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will move forward his command at 7 a. m. on the Sandy Run Post-Office road.

2. The train of the Third Division, with a guard of one regiment, will follow the train of the First Division.

3. Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will follow the train of the Third Division, being prepared to move at 9 o'clock.

4. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will commence work on the railroad at 7 a. m. to-morrow at the point where the Fourth Division left off to-day, and will destroy until 12 m., at which hour he will move by the most practicable route to Big Beaver Creek, on the State road, where the command will encamp to-morrow night. He will effectually burn all trestle-work and culverts that may be on the portion of the road destroyed.

5. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will proceed up the railroad to a point four miles from this place, where they will commence to burn all culverts and trestle-work they may strike up to the Congaree, and upon reaching the river they will demonstrate strongly against the bridge, so as to force the enemy to burn it, or, if practicable, burn it themselves. Having accomplished this, they will proceed by the river road to camp on Big Beaver Creek.

6. The bridge train will follow the train of the Fourth Division.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NORTH EDISTO, *February 13, 1865—7 a. m.*

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

We secured the bridge last night and have already rebuilt it. We lost fifteen men, killed and wounded. Shall move forward to-day about ten miles. Davis is not up. I shall send a party to build the bridge over North Fork for him. Kilpatrick is at Johnson's, the first station east of Aiken. He had skirmish on Saturday, in which he lost fifty men. I shall communicate with you to-morrow.

Yours, very respectfully,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 9. } HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Guignard's Bridge, S. C., February 13, 1865.*

General Morgan will move to-morrow at 6 a. m. from his present position by the direct road to Horsey's Bridge, over the North Fork of the Edisto.

General Carlin will march at 6 a. m., and will follow General Morgan.

General Baird will take charge of all the trains now at this point, and will follow the column, marching at 6 a. m.

The cavalry will cross South Fork of Edisto in rear of General Baird.

The pontoniers and First Michigan Engineers will be reported by their commanding officer to General Morgan, and will march under his direction until further orders.

Corps headquarters will move in rear of General Morgan.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Guignard's Bridge, S. C., February 13, 1865.

Brig. Gen. W. P. CARLIN,
Commanding First Division, Fourteenth Army Corps:

The general commanding directs that you at once order a brigade of your division to relieve the brigade of General Mitchell (Morgan's division), which is now guarding the trains of the corps at this point. This brigade will remain in charge of the trains until it is relieved by further orders, which will probably be to-night or to-morrow morning. A company will at once relieve the company of General Mitchell's brigade now guarding the mill and dam. Very close watch will be kept upon the latter, as its destruction involves the entire destruction of the crossing of the Edisto. You will cross the remainder of your command in rear of General Mitchell.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. McCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 4. HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Jones' Cross-Roads, February 13, 1865.

Hereafter foraging parties sent out must not consist of less than fifty men, under command of a commissioned officer (without especial permission from these headquarters), who will at all times keep his men well in hand, and will under no pretense allow them to enter houses for purpose of plunder. Within the last few days several men have been captured by straggling from parties sent out for the purpose of foraging. Division and brigade commanders will make it their especial attention to see that this order is promulgated through quartermasters, commissaries, surgeons, ordnance, and all other officers, to all men under their command.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 5. HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Jones' Cross-Roads, S. C., February 13, 1865.

Hereafter cattle herds, in crossing swamps, rivers, &c., where it is impossible for them to be marched on the flanks of the column, will be driven in rear of their respective brigades, and where division herds are formed, in rear of the division. Captain Bickford will cause his herd to be driven in the rear of the corps supply train.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Near Jones' Cross-Roads, S. C., February 13, 1865.

This command will move to-morrow toward Lexington, as follows: First Division at 7 a. m., Second Division at 8 a. m., Third Division at 9 a. m. General Jackson will march his entire command, unencumbered, in advance. General Geary will dispose of his troops so as to cover and effectually protect the trains of his own and General Jackson's division. The batteries will march in the same order as to-day. General Ward will march three regiments in rear of the train, as a rear guard. Division commanders will promulgate this order to their division quartermasters, and will see that the trains march in their proper places. The following is the assignment of the cavalry train: Second Brigade and ambulance train with the train of the First Division; First and Third Brigades with the Second Division; cavalry supply train with the Third Division. The train of the Michigan Engineers will march at the head of the train of the leading division.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
February 13, 1865. (Received 4.30 p. m. 17th.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States, City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: The inclosed dispatch* contains the latest information from General Sherman's army. His instructions in regard to Bull's Bay are now being carried out. General Hatch is north of the Combahee River, and will push forward. I shall visit him to-morrow and remain with him some days, if necessary.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 13, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States, City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I assumed command of this department on the evening of the 9th instant. I started the same night to set on foot a demonstration which General Sherman had ordered to be made on the 8th at Bull's Bay, S. C., but which General Foster delayed because General Sherman's advance had been somewhat retarded by bad roads. Before the troops were ready to embark from Folly Island, where they had been rendezvoused, I ascertained that my presence was required at Hilton Head, and therefore left Brigadier-General Potter to take charge of the demonstration, in co-operation with a suitable force from the navy. I have since learned that the landing would probably be effected yesterday. General Potter's orders were to seize the principal roads leading to the interior, throw

* See Sherman to Foster, February 7, p. 338.

up works, and give the affair the appearance of a permanent lodgment, for the purpose of co-operating with General Sherman. General Potter has but 1,300 men, and I can spare him no more. General Hatch, with 3,500 men, is north of the Combahee River. He has destroyed several miles of the railroad north of Pocotaligo, including some important trestle bridges. I will at once push him forward, as General Sherman directs, toward the Edisto River, if it be a possible thing to do so. I shall visit him to-morrow. A package of dispatches from your headquarters for General Sherman was turned over to me by General Foster to be forwarded. They are now in General Hatch's possession, who has directions to send them, if it can be done with safety; otherwise their contents will be communicated verbally to two or three trusty scouts, who will try and find their way to General Sherman's headquarters. General Hatch may not be able to spare a suitable escort for such a purpose.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff Armies of the United States, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: A dispatch* in cipher and in triplicate has been received from General Sherman's headquarters, which no one here familiar with such matters has been able to translate. I have therefore directed a steamer, which is now ready to start north, to touch at Fortress Monroe, and have the dispatch telegraphed to Lieutenant-General Grant. Admiral Dahlgren has what purports to be a key to the cipher, left with him by General Sherman, but something appears to be wanting on it, for it has not been of any use to us. I am informed that the admiral also has a cipher dispatch from General Sherman which he has not been able to translate. I respectfully request that I may be furnished with a key to the cipher used by General Sherman, with full explanations for its use.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Since writing the above the dispatch has been deciphered and an original copy sent to General Grant and yourself by telegraph.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: There are in my custody 495 rebel officers, prisoners of war. They were sent to this department in August, 1864, by your order, to be placed under fire, in retaliation for the Union officers held by the rebels under fire at Charleston, S. C. On October 13, 1864, Lieutenant-General Hardee, commanding at Charleston, notified Gen-

* See Sherman to Foster, February 7, p. 338.

eral Foster that our officers had been removed from Charleston, and the rebel prisoners were accordingly removed from Morris Island, where they had been placed to carry out the above order; 313 men are now confined at Fort Pulaski, Ga., and 182 in the barracks of the provost-guard house at Hilton Head. I respectfully ask permission to return these prisoners to a military prison at the North, upon the following grounds: With the small number of troops in this department available at present for garrison and guard duty, the only places where I can keep them without danger of escaping are Fort Pulaski and the provost barracks here. Fort Pulaski is needed for use as a military prison by General Grover, commanding the District of Savannah, and for the detention of spies and doubtful characters, who are being sent back by General Sherman. The barracks here are overcrowded with stragglers, convalescents, and recruits, continually arriving at this point in large numbers en route for General Sherman's army. The presence of these prisoners subjects our own soldiers of the above classes to great inconvenience and apparent neglect. These barracks are also the receptacle of numerous refugees and rebel deserters, who are arriving from General Sherman's rear in considerable numbers. Besides, the retaliatory object for which they were originally sent here having been accomplished, by compelling the rebels to withdraw our prisoners from under our fire at Charleston, I would suggest that these men can be kept by the Government at less expense and with fewer guards at one of the regularly organized prison camps at the North.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

FLAG-SHIP HARVEST MOON,
Port Royal, February 13, 1865.

Major-General GILLMORE,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: I received by your aide a dispatch in cipher from General Sherman,* and I send you by my fleet captain the key to the cipher sent me by General Sherman. As it was given under injunction of strict confidence, I have to request that you will not permit any but yourself to see it; that no copy of it will be taken, and that it will be returned to me by Fleet Captain Bradford.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. DAHLGREN,
Rear-Admiral.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Morris Island, S. C., February 13, 1865.

Captain JOHNSON, U. S. Navy,
Commanding U. S. Naval Forces, Stono Inlet:

CAPTAIN: Allow me to convey to you my sincere thanks for your hearty and very effective co-operation in the late demonstration on James Island. From the intercepted dispatches and the testimony of prisoners it is evident that the object in view was fully attained, viz,

* See 7th, p. 338.

to prevent the enemy from sending troops away from the defenses of Charleston to re-enforce those engaged against General Sherman. It would appear that the enemy would not have dared to withdraw troops from my front even without this demonstration. My further object was to make the enemy withdraw troops from his right and left wings, that is, from Adams' Run and Andersonville and Mount Pleasant, so as to facilitate the operations of General Hatch and General Potter. What forces, if any, the enemy has withdrawn from Adams' Run I do not yet know. General Hardee is, however, now personally commanding in Charleston. As to the left wing of the enemy, we have fully succeeded by this demonstration on James Island and in the harbor in causing him to withdraw the troops from Andersonville, Mount Pleasant, and to a great extent from Sullivan's Island, and General Potter will probably have met with little or no resistance yesterday. It is my intention to keep up these demonstrations and keep the enemy in and around Charleston as uneasy as possible. I therefore beg you to advance again to-morrow morning (Tuesday, February 14), in about the same manner as on February 10, and support my infantry, a small force of which will again cross over to James Island. I have sent a copy of this letter to Captain Scott, commanding naval forces off Charleston. Colonel Kozlay will call on you and make all necessary arrangements with you.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding District.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 3.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT,
DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Morris Island, S. C., February 13, 1865.

I hereby tender my thanks to the commanders of posts and to the officers and enlisted men of this command for the hearty and efficient manner in which orders have been executed by them during the past week on James Island, as well as in Charleston Harbor. The cheerful performance of their duty on the part of the men is so much the more deserving of high credit, as they were worn out by months of hard fatigue and outpost duty. The brilliant conduct of the skirmishers of the Fifty-fourth New York Volunteers, under the skillful command of Capt. Gustav Blau, of that regiment, elicits my especial admiration. Soldiers, we have yet a few days of hard work before us. Keep up, therefore, your good will and cheerful spirits, as you have done, and your exertions will soon find their reward.

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Morris Island, S. C., February 13, 1865.

Col. E. A. KOZLAY,
Commanding Post, Folly Island, S. C.:

COLONEL: The enemy has ordered artillery and infantry back to Mount Pleasant and Christ Church against General Potter. We must try to keep as many of them in our front as possible, and you will therefore again demonstrate on or against James Island. If the navy supports you, you will cross over to-morrow, February 14, in

the forenoon from the left of Cole's Island to Battery and James Islands after the artillery has cleared the ground. You will cross over with infantry only, and not advance your skirmishers farther than the line of rifle-pits extending from the bridge on the right of Cole's Island in a northerly direction. Your patrols may advance farther. Your line will remain in the rifle-pits in the rear and to the west of the line of rifle-pits before mentioned. You will make a show of your force. You will retire from James Island before dark, from Battery Island after dark. You will have men work on the bridge on the right of Cole's Island for at least four hours, but lay it only half way and take the planks back again after dark. Should the navy not be able to co-operate with you, you will cross over to Battery Island in the afternoon and send a small party only over to James Island, and retire after dark. The battery on Long Island and the right of Cole's Island and the mortar schooner will open fire after sunrise to-morrow. The detachment of the Twenty-first U. S. Colored Troops and such other troops as can be spared should march at once noisily to the right of Cole's Island so that they can be seen and heard; march back to the left silently after dark and again noisily to the right. The same orders you will give to the Fifty-sixth New York Volunteers when they arrive. This regiment will need a guide. All this will make the enemy believe that a large force is gathering on our outpost line. The men may light fires and cook on James Island as well as on Cole's Island. If you meet with resistance you may retire. Have mock guns placed in the battery on the left of Cole's Island until the guns for that battery arrive.

By order of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig:

EDW. W. SCHAUFFLER,
Lieutenant and Acting Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Morris Island, S. C., February 13, 1865.

Lieut. Col. A. G. BENNETT,
Commanding Post, Morris Island, S. C.:

COLONEL: You will order at once without delay all the available officers and men of the Fifty sixth New York Volunteers to report forthwith to Colonel Kozlay, at Stono Landing. They will be provided with three days' rations, &c., in accordance with former orders on this subject. The detailed men in the quartermaster's and commissary departments will remain.

By order of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig:

J. W. DICKINSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, February 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Savannah, Ga.:

GENERAL: Your letter of January 21* I received a few days after it was written, and you may rest assured that I shall not neglect any of the instructions therein contained. General Grant, accompanied by

* See p. 111.

General Schofield, was at Morehead City two weeks since, and from him I learned that a force of 6,000 men was to come here. I understood that it was to be one division of Schofield's corps. This arrangement must have been changed, however, for the Provisional Division of the Army of the Tennessee, under the command of General T. F. Meagher, has just arrived. This consists of about 5,000 men, composed of squads or detachments from nearly every regiment of your army, and no complete organization of any kind. There are with this some fifty officers only, and after taking out the commanding officers of the brigades with the staff officers there is scarcely one officer to each 200 men, and the whole command is but a mob of men in uniform. However, general, I shall try to put this force in a shape that will be useful. In the first place, I have determined to take all of the recruits, substitutes, and drafted men of the command and place them in the old organizations now serving here. These compose nearly one-half of the entire force. The remainder will then be in better shape to handle, and I shall try to find some more officers to attach temporarily to the division. At any rate, general, we will do the best with the force we have, and I have no complaints to make. I thought it proper to inform you, however, of the condition of affairs. The railroad construction corps has arrived, and I fancy that their mission is no secret. It is pretty well understood among the people of these parts that your army will march northward through this State. I neglected to state that no wagons or transportation of any kind arrived with General Meagher's command. The Quartermaster-General informs me that in answer to my request he has ordered 100 wagons to be sent here. He says he presumes that General Schofield sent transportation with the troops lately arrived. This is not the case, and if it becomes necessary to move very soon we would be badly off, but we will do the best we can.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 14, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The Richmond Dispatch to-day has the following:

SHERMAN'S MOVEMENTS.—THE SITUATION IN SOUTH CAROLINA.—OFFICIAL DISPATCH FROM GENERAL HARDEE.

The military operations now going on in South Carolina are of the first importance to our cause, and naturally engross the attention of our people, to the exclusion of movements reported to be taking place elsewhere. Sherman has run through Georgia without meeting with any obstruction, and it is expected, if he is to be checked at all, it must be done quickly. It is only within the past week that his movement against Branchville was clearly developed. Previous to that time it was not yet known certainly that he would not concentrate against Augusta or Charleston. It is now reported by telegraph that he has a column moving on Augusta, but this must be received as an unconfirmed rumor. We cannot contradict it, though at the same time we do not know that it is true. For the present all communication with Augusta is cut off, and we do not know what is going on there or in that neighborhood.

As concerns matters at Charleston and in the direction of Columbia our information is more definite. The enemy with a force of 3,000 men landed at Grimball's, on James Island, last Friday, and drove in our pickets. Some skirmishing followed,

but there was no general engagement. Grimball's is on the Stono River, two miles southwest of Charleston, and the Ashley River, a wide stream, lies between it and the city. This demonstration of the enemy is believed to be a feint.

The following dispatch, received late Sunday night, is the official report of this affair. It contains also other interesting intelligence:

"CHARLESTON, *February 11.*

"General S. COOPER,
"Adjutant and Inspector General:

"The enemy last evening drove in our pickets on James Island. The lines have been re-established to-day. The enemy are still in strong force on the island, but the movement is believed to be only a demonstration. There is an increase to-day of eighteen steamers off the bar. A barge attack made to-night upon Battery Tompkins [Simkins] was repulsed.

"W. J. HARDEE,
"Lieutenant-General."

Since the receipt of the above we are without advices from Charleston.

On Saturday a column of Sherman's infantry and cavalry crossed the Edisto to the west of and above Branchville, and advanced on the Columbia Branch Railroad. Our troops at Branchville withdrew toward Columbia. According to the last official accounts, received yesterday, the enemy were at Orangeburg, some twenty miles north of Branchville, and on the road to Columbia.

During our retreat there has been continual skirmishing with the enemy, but no general engagement. It was said here yesterday that Beauregard intended to make an attack, but we think from present indications it is more likely he will fall back beyond the Santee and defend the line of that river. He is said to have an adequate force for either an offensive or defensive policy, whichever he may find it expedient to adopt. Columbia is on the right bank of the Santee, about fifty miles west of north of Orangeburg.

IMPORTANT FROM NORTH CAROLINA.—A HEAVY YANKEE COLUMN THREATENING AN ADVANCE ON RALEIGH.

Unofficial intelligence has been received here that a force of the enemy, estimated at 20,000 men, have landed at New Berne. It is believed to be their object to advance at once upon Raleigh, or at least upon our lines of railroad in North Carolina. They are said to have brought with them five locomotives and railroad iron sufficient to lay forty or fifty miles of track.

FROM EAST TENNESSEE.

The report reached us yesterday that Stoneman and Burbridge were preparing to make a raid from Tennessee into North Carolina, in the direction of Raleigh, with the hope of co-operating with the column now said to be on foot to invade the State from the Atlantic coast. We give this for what it may be worth.

From the Whig:

FROM WILMINGTON, FEBRUARY 13.

There has been considerable skirmishing on our lines at Sugar Loaf. On Saturday the enemy made three attacks in force, which were handsomely repulsed. During the attack the enemy's whole fleet opened on Hoke's left. Our casualties are about twenty men. The same day one monitor threw several shells at Fort Anderson, killing 1 and wounding 1. All quiet since.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

We learn that 1,050 of our prisoners have been brought under the Yankee flag of truce to Aiken's Landing, and are awaiting transportation thence to Richmond, which could not be effected yesterday on account of the ice in the river.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 73. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, February 14, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

60. First Lieut. Isaac S. Lyon, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, is hereby relieved from duty in the Army of the Potomac, and will report in person without delay to the chief signal officer serving with General Sherman, commanding Military Division of the Mississippi, for assignment to duty.

61. The following-named officers are hereby relieved from duty in the Department of North Carolina, and will report in person without delay to Capt. Charles L. Davis, chief signal officer, Army of the Potomac, for assignment to duty: Second Lieut. E. S. Moffatt, Signal Corps, U. S. Army; Second Lieut. Robert E. Duvall, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Sandy Run, S. C., February 14, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Lieutenant McQueen, with several scouts, went yesterday to Fort Motte. He heard that the enemy had the railroad bridge all ready to set fire to on the approach of our troops. He picked up near the State road two prisoners who belong to Conner's brigade of Longstreet's corps. Their brigade, 1,500 strong, had been guarding a bridge over Four-Hole Swamp, in the expectation that we would advance on Charleston from Orangeburg. They did not know of any more troops being here from their corps other than Conner's brigade. Citizens report that the enemy is making works about three miles beyond the railroad bridge.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

P. S.—A scout just in reports that the enemy burned the railroad bridge over the Congaree on the approach of the Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry (at 1 p. m.). The scout went up to the bridge. There appeared to be about a regiment on the other side.

O. O. H.,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 38. } HDQRS. DEPT. AND ARMY OF THE TENN., *Near Sandy Run Post-Office, S. C., February 14, 1865.*

I. The movement to-morrow will commence at 7 a. m. Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, commanding Fifteenth Army Corps, will move by the State road toward Columbia with three of his divisions, carefully reconnoiter the enemy's works across the Congaree Creek, being careful not to expose his column to the enemy's artillery. With his other division he will make a demonstration at Bates' Ferry, and, if it can be done, throw a pontoon across at that point. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Major-General Blair commanding, will close up on the

Fifteenth Army Corps as far as Seven Hunt Run, and await orders' His movement will begin at 8.30 a. m. Each corps commander will endeavor to shorten his column during halts as much as possible by massing the troops. General Blair will reconnoiter with his mounted infantry well to the left, to ascertain a practicable crossing of Congaree Creek to the left of the State road. In case the enemy give way from General Slocum's movement, the command will move straight on Columbia, the Fifteenth Army Corps leading. Headquarters Army of the Tennessee will follow the second division in order of march. Capt. C. B. Reese, chief engineer of the department, will direct the bridge train to move to Bates' Ferry at the time it may be required.

II. Capt. William C. Palmer, One hundred and twenty-seventh Illinois Infantry Volunteers, is hereby detailed for special service as acting commissary of subsistence and acting assistant quartermaster, and will report for duty to Lieut. Col. D. Remick, chief commissary of subsistence Department and Army of the Tennessee.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 10. } *Baker's Plantation, S. C., February 14, 1865.*

I. The following is announced as the badge of this corps: A miniature cartridge-box, black, one-eighth of an inch thick, fifteen-sixteenths of an inch wide, and thirteen-sixteenths of an inch deep, set transversely on a field of cloth or metal one and five-eighths of an inch square; above the cartridge-box plate will be stamped or marked in a curve the motto, "Forty Rounds." The field on which the cartridge-box is set will be red for the First Division, white for the Second Division, blue for the Third Division, and yellow for the Fourth Division. For the headquarters of the corps the field will be parti-colored, of red, white, blue, and yellow.

II. The badge will invariably be worn upon the hat or cap.

III. It is expected that this badge will be worn constantly by every officer and soldier in the corps. If any corps in the army has a right to take pride in its badge, surely that has which looks back through the long and glorious line of Wilson's Creek, Henry, Donelson, Shiloh, Russell House, Corinth, Iuka, Town Creek, Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, Champion's Hill, Big Black, Snyder's Bluff, Vicksburg, Jackson, Cherokee Station, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Ringgold, Knoxville, Resaca, Kingston, Dallas, New Hope Church, Big Shanty, Kenesaw Mountain, Nickajack, Decatur, the 22d and 28th of July before Atlanta, Jonesborough, Lovejoy's, Allatoona Pass, Grahamville, Fort McAllister, and scores of minor struggles; the corps which had its birth under Grant and Sherman in the darker days of our struggle; the corps which will keep on striking until the death of the rebellion.

IV. For the present, good temporary badges can be made easily by any soldier in the corps. When communication is re-established with the North commanders can procure very handsome ones for their men at a nominal cost.

V. Division and brigade commanders are requested to examine plans for division and brigade flags at these headquarters.

By order of Maj. Gen. John A. Logan:

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Wolf's Plantation, S. C., February 14, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., Fifteenth Army Corps:*

MAJOR: I respectfully report that, in obedience to your orders, I broke camp at 7 this a. m., and marched in the direction of Sandy Run Post-Office. Striking the main State road at that point I proceeded some three miles and a half farther, going into camp near Wolf's plantation. On reaching the creek at this place I discovered a small party of the enemy on the opposite side. They, however, retreated at once before my skirmishers. My position is good, being on a high ridge just beyond the creek, two brigades on the right and one on the left of the road, with the battery directly in the road. The troops are intrenched, with good works. To-night the rebel cavalry made a dash on my picket-line capturing three of the vedettes. My headquarters are on the south side of the creek near the bridge.

I am, major, very respectfully

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 14, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report that this division broke camp at 7 a. m. to-day, and marched to a point where it is now camped, two miles north of the Sandy Creek crossing, near corps headquarters, a distance of fifteen miles. My headquarters are at a farm house on the west side of the road at the point above mentioned.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Sandy Run Post-Office, S. C., February 14, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., Fifteenth Army Corps:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command broke camp at 9.15 o'clock this a. m., and marched to present camp, one mile north of Sandy Run Post-Office; distance, twelve miles. The division is encamped in column by regiments, on the left of Orangeburg and Columbia road, fronting north. Headquarters are established on the right of the road, immediately in rear of command.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Four Miles from Sandy Run Post-Office, S. C.,
February 14, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., Fifteenth Army Corps:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the following movements of my command during this day: I broke camp on the State road at 7 a. m. and moved to Sandy Run Post-Office (five miles), and from thence to

the left on the Orangeburg and Columbia road, a distance of four miles, when I placed my command in bivouac on the right and left of road, having marched nine miles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 18 } *February 14, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

VI. The troops composing this division will march at 7 a. m. to-morrow, the 15th instant, on Congaree Creek, in the following order, and as the road is of sufficient width to admit of the train and troops to march abreast, the troops will therefore move by the side of the trains, giving the best track to the latter; battery to move at the head of trains.

First. Third Brigade Infantry, Colonel Hurlbut; second, First Brigade, General Rice; third, Second Brigade, Colonel Adams. Trains to move in the same order as to-day, the 14th instant, with exception of five wagons, which will follow battery, and the advance brigade train follow ambulances.

* * * * * * *

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Sandy Run Post-Office, S. C., February 14, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE, *A. A. G., Dept. and Army of the Tennessee:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry, and General Potts' brigade (Fourth Division), proceeded up the railroad to the Congaree River this morning. The enemy were found in a strong position, with rifle pits on this side of the river, and numbered about 300. A small skirmish line of the Ninth Illinois (the infantry being some distance to the rear) advanced on them and stampeded them toward the bridge. They were in such haste that they set fire to the bridge (which had been prepared for burning with turpentine) before the whole force was over. Those who were cut off, except two of the Forty-third Georgia, who were captured, took to the swamp and could not be followed. The enemy after crossing continued their retreat, and the Ninth Illinois moved up to the bank and stood on the bridge without being molested. A pontoon could have been laid there easily. The Ninth Illinois have returned to camp. General Potts' brigade is encamped about ten miles from here, and will move forward at daylight in the morning. The trestle and culverts on the railroad were all destroyed, and the Third Division worked on the road from the State road north until 12 m., completely destroying the part passed over. I estimate the destruction of the road, including the two miles below Orangeburg, and the trestle and culverts, at twenty miles.

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

P. S.—This report would have been sent in sooner had General Potts' brigade and the Third Division been heard from.

F. P. B.,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 41. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Near Sandy Run Post-Office, February 14, 1865.*

I. The orders for to-morrow are as follows:

1. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will have the advance, and will move forward on the State road at 8.30 a. m.

2. Bvt. Maj. Gen. Giles A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will follow the Third Division, being prepared to move at 9.30 o'clock.

3. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will follow the Fourth Division, being prepared to move at 10.30 o'clock.

4. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will be prepared to move at 8 o'clock, and will receive directions from Captain Henley, aide-de-camp.

5. The bridge train will follow the train of the rear division.

6. During a halt division commanders will close up by massing the troops and doubling the trains.

II. In order to provide against a scarcity of provisions hereafter, no more hard bread will be issued until further orders.

Full rations of sugar, coffee, and salt, will be issued, and the troops will depend on foraging parties for subsistence.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
February 14, 1865.

Major-General DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Army Corps:

DEAR GENERAL: The Twentieth Corps is at the junction of the road leading from Horsey's Bridge to the mouth of Congaree Creek with the road from Lexington to Big Bull Swamp. It is the cross-roads just south of Sand Hills. It will move to-morrow to the cross-roads just over Red Branch. I wish you to move forward as early as possible to Lexington, taking the Barnwell road, passing near Bethel Church. You will be very near me when you cross the Two Notch road, and I wish you would call and see me at that point. If you reach there before I do please wait until I arrive. Kilpatrick should protect your left and rear.

Yours, respectfully,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 10. } HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Hutton's House, S. C., February 14, 1865.*

The troops of the corps will move to-morrow as follows:

General Carlin will march at 6 a. m. upon Lexington by the direct road running through his camp toward Mims' and Horse Creek Post-Office and the Barnwell road, via Bethel Church and Lybrand's. He will be accompanied by and give the necessary orders to the pontoniers and First Michigan Engineers, who will be reported to him to-night by their commanding officers.

Corps headquarters, with reserve artillery and ammunition train, will move in rear of General Carlin.

General Morgan will move immediately in rear of reserve artillery.

General Baird, marching at 6 a. m. with the trains of the corps, will conduct them via this point and follow the column on the road indicated.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Columbia Cross-Roads, S. C., February 14, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow toward Lexington, as follows: Second Division, at 7 a. m.; Third Division, at 8 a. m.; First Division, at 9 a. m. General Geary will march the troops of his division, unencumbered, as the advance. General Jackson will detail three regiments to march as rear guard. A section of artillery will accompany it. One battery of artillery will march in rear of General Geary's advanced brigade. The balance of the artillery will march immediately in rear of the troops of the Second Division. The Michigan Engineers, with their train, will march at the head of the trains of the Second Division, starting at 7 a. m. General Ward will dispose of his troops so as to protect the trains of his own and General Geary's divisions. As we are in the immediate presence of the enemy commanding officers are enjoined to exercise great caution in sending out foraging parties. Neither officers nor men should be permitted to leave the column, except in parties strong enough to protect themselves.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

NORFOLK, VA., *February 14, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Headquarters Armies of the United States, City Point:

I have the honor to report that I left Hilton Head on the 11th instant on the steamship Arago, and arrived in Hampton Roads last night, having experienced a northeasterly gale off Hatteras. Major-General Gillmore relieved me of the command of the Department of the South on the 9th instant. The military news that I bring is not important. A report had reached Hilton Head as I was leaving that Sherman had taken Branchville, but I could not trace it to any reliable source. The rebels had fallen back from the Combahee River, and General Hatch had orders to follow and destroy the railroad. He had crossed the Combahee, advancing toward the Ashepoo River. General E. E. Potter, with a small brigade, had demonstrated from Edisto Island toward Willstown, but found the enemy in force. On the 8th, 9th, and 10th he demonstrated, supported by General Schimmelfennig, on James Island, but found the enemy still in force there. The force then had orders to proceed to Bull's Bay, and hold the roads by which the enemy might escape from Mount Pleasant. I am to leave for Baltimore to-night, to obtain surgical relief from my present disability.

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General.

(Same to Major-General Halleck.)

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Savannah, Ga., February 14, 1865.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that, by direction of the major-general commanding, the headquarters of the Military Division of the Mississippi are this day established at the city of Savannah, under direction of Brig. Gen. J. D. Webster, chief of staff to the major-general commanding. An office for the transaction of the general business of the command is this day opened at the Bank of the State of Georgia in this city, with the following-named officers on duty therein: Lieut. Col. R. M. Sawyer, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. M. Rochester, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. E. L. Anderson, acting assistant adjutant-general.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. M. SAWYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Brevet Major-General Grover, commanding District of Savannah.)

FLAG-STEAMER HARVEST MOON,
Port Royal Harbor, S. C., February 14, 1865.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Comdg. Department of the South, Headquarters Hilton Head:

SIR: I have just received your communication of the 14th, stating that "a naval demonstration up the Edisto would aid General Hatch, and might open communication with him if made to-morrow or next day." You ask if it will be in my power "to afford any co-operation in that quarter?" With little exception, the only vessels of the squadron that could ascend the Edisto so far as to give the appearance of reality to any demonstration are now absent at Bull's Bay, co-operating with your detachment at that place. When you will inform me that they can be spared from that service I will direct them to the Edisto without delay. The Pontiac, now remaining at Savannah by request of General Grover, could also be used if she could be spared. The present weather will unavoidably retard all naval movements whilst it lasts. I send herewith, for your information, a deciphered copy of General Sherman's dispatch to me.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. A. DAHLGREN,
Real-Admiral, Comdg. South Atlantic Blockading Squadron.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 20. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 14, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. R. Saxton, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby announced as superintendent of the volunteer recruiting service for the Department of the South, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

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* See 7th, p. 328.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. M. S. Littlefield, U. S. Volunteers, will continue in the discharge of his duties as mustering and disbursing officer for the department, under the regulations established by the War Department, reporting to Bvt. Maj. Gen. R. Saxton.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 14, 1865.

Brig. Gen. JOHN P. HATCH,
Pocotaligo, S. C.:

Your letter of the 12th and telegrams of the 12th and 13th instant are received. General Prince's command will get their arms to-day. He is short of officers and has no transportation. You can probably get 1,000 or 1,200 men from him to-morrow morning. Take all that can be of service. General Sherman's orders of the 7th are for you to push forward to the Edisto. I do not think any enemy will remain on your right flank as you advance. I will ask the admiral to feel up the Ashepoo and Edisto.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF SAVANNAH,
Savannah, Ga., February 14, 1865.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Headquarters Department of the South:

I have just received the order to hold 1,000 men in readiness for detached service. In reply I have to state that I have but 3,910 enlisted men present for duty. Of that number 1,900 are necessary for duty in the town for the safety of public property and the city. With the remaining 2,000 I have to guard a line five miles in length and furnish all details, which are at this post very heavy. I therefore cannot, consistently with the safety of this city and the public property here, spare the force ordered. If desired I can make a full explanation of all the duties required here, which will strengthen the foregoing statement. I consider it my duty, therefore, as the commanding officer of the district and post, and therefore responsible for its safety, respectfully but earnestly to protest against the taking away of any force, at least at present.

C. GROVER,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 14, 1865.

Rear-Admiral D. D. PORTER,
Commanding North Atlantic Squadron:

ADMIRAL: The movement ordered on the 12th will be made to-night, except that the pontoon boats will be hauled on wagons. Please order

the gun-boats outside to be ready to cover the crossing of the sound at daylight in the morning and to land their small boats at the point of crossing about midnight, if the weather will permit.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General, Commanding.

FEDERAL POINT, N. C., *February 14, 1865—3.30 p. m.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

Our pilots say it is too rough on the bar to take the small steamers across now. I will send orders to the vessels outside to do as you have wished.

D. D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 14, 1865.

Admiral D. D. PORTER:

I do not expect to make any movement outside, only to have the gun-boats near enough to cover the crossing of the sound at daylight to-morrow morning, and keep open signal communication between me and General Terry.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 5. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO, *Federal Point, N. C., February 14, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

II. The movement ordered in Special Orders, No. 3, of February 12, 1865, will be made to-night with the following modifications, viz: The pontoon boats will be hauled upon their wagons along the beach instead of being sent by sea. If the weather will permit the navy boats will be landed at the point designated in the order of the 12th. If not the pontoon boats will be relied upon to carry the troops across the sound.

The brigade detailed to accompany the boats will constitute the advance guard of the column and will march at dark, followed immediately by the train and then by the troops, General Ames' division in advance.

Brigadier-General Comstock will have command of the train and its guard, and will have immediate control of the operations in crossing the sound.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 14 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER U. S. TROOPS, 23D ARMY CORPS,
Smithville, N. C. (debarking at Smithville):

SIR: Major-General Schofield directs that you put all the troops landing from the vessels at Smithville in camp near that place and have them prepared for active field service immediately.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Federal Point, N. C., February 14, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Smithville, N. C.:

COLONEL: A division, or part of one, of the Twenty-third Corps will land at Smithville to-night or early in the morning. I want you at daylight in the morning to start a reconnaissance on both of the roads leading out from Smithville. Take about 300 men on the road to Fort Anderson. A smaller force will be sufficient on the other road. Push out about five or six miles, or more if practicable, and remain out the greater portion of the day. Get all the information that you can of the position, strength, movements, &c., of the enemy and of the roads and country toward Wilmington. Your reconnaissance will also serve as a diversion in favor of a movement I propose to make on this side of the river. If you need assistance during the day call on the officer commanding the troops of the Twenty-third Corps. Show him this order as your authority for doing so.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

GENERAL TERRY'S HEADQUARTERS,
Fort Fisher, February 14, 1865.

Colonel GRANGER,
Commanding Brigade:

SIR: It is proposed to-night to move a pontoon train and a body of troops up the beach to a point about seven miles in front of the right of our present line; then to unload the pontoons, haul them by hand nearly a mile across the marsh to Myrtle Sound, and then to ferry the whole column across the sound, believed to be about 200 yards wide at the point selected for ferrying. Your brigade has been selected for the advance, preceding the pontoon train, and when the pontoon wagons have gone as far as they can to assist the engineers, of whom there will be about ten to each pontoon, in unloading the pontoons, and then to haul them by a route which will be designated to Myrtle Sound. You will before starting divide your command into thirty parties, of about fifty men each, properly commanded, and when the unloading begins will assign each party to a pontoon, with orders to stay with it till relieved. The officer in command of each party will be held

responsible that his pontoon is got to the point of ferriage. Possibly there may be water enough in some of the creeks which intersect the marsh to float the pontoons a part of the way. In this case the party of engineers accompanying each pontoon will manage it while afloat, the infantry moving along the marsh near it to assist if necessary. When all the pontoons have reached the point of ferriage further orders will be given. It is expected that every man in the command will get wet. Strict orders should be given to prevent either lights or noise, as either would give the alarm to the enemy.

Very respectfully,

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 15, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The Richmond Dispatch to-day has the following:

AFFAIRS IN SOUTH CAROLINA—WHEELER BEATS KILPATRICK NEAR AUGUSTA.

We have for some days been in doubt as to what force Sherman had sent in the direction of Augusta. This doubt has at length been solved. It seems that while his main army advanced toward Branchville and Charleston he sent Kilpatrick and his cavalry to demonstrate against Augusta, and to break up the Charleston and Augusta Railroad. From official dispatches received at the War Department we learn that on last Friday General Wheeler attacked Kilpatrick at Aiken, on the Charleston and Augusta Railroad, twenty miles northeast of Augusta, and after a considerable engagement drove him five miles in the direction of Branchville.

An official dispatch received from Columbia yesterday states that in consequence of the enemy having occupied Orangeburg in force our troops have abandoned Branchville. This is in effect the same statement made by us yesterday. Our troops have by this time, no doubt, fallen back to the Congaree River, which, with the Wateree, forms the Santee. Columbia is situated immediately on the right bank of the Congaree, thirty miles above its confluence with the Wateree. If our troops fall back behind the Congaree the enemy will be able to shell Columbia from the south bank of that stream. We also learn that the Congaree and its tributary, the Saluda, are both easily fordable above the city. This disposes us to believe that our troops will seek to give battle before crossing the Congaree.

The Whig says:

We learn upon good authority that our forces are falling back before Sherman's advancing columns in the direction of Columbia, S. C., and will probably make a stand on the Santee.

A NAVAL FORCE CAPTURED.

We learn that a naval party, consisting of 12 officers and 100 men, under the command of Lieutenant (Tacony) Read, were recently captured by the Yankees near Smithfield, Isle of Wight County. Among the party was Assistant Engineer Tomlinson, of the James River fleet, who was married the night before his departure. We do not deem it prudent to give any information as to the object of their expedition, and think we are sufficiently explicit when we say that they started for a purpose, failed in accomplishing it, and are now no doubt in a Yankee prison doing anything else than blessing their luck. A heavy fire occurred at Danville on Wednesday last. The estimated loss exceeds $2,000,000. General Braxton Bragg is at present in Richmond.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, 21 Miles from Columbia, February 15, 1865.

General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: Yours of this date is received.* I would like to have Blair try and stampede the guard at the Congaree bridge by a semblance of attack, for which purpose one division to the rear of his trains would cover them all, leaving one to advance on the bridge, burning only the trestles, whilst the other confines its attention to twisting bars. Corse and Woods are now within five or six miles of Sandy Run. I think you can put all the Fifteenth across Sandy Run to-morrow, and Blair's train and division to Sandy Creek Post-Office, where the Orangeburg and State roads meet. One more march, viz, the day after to-morrow, will bring us easily up abreast of Columbia. Captain Audenried in riding ahead to-day captured a rebel lieutenant just out of Columbia, and, passing himself off as a rebel, extracted from him much information. The force now at Columbia is small and the people are not expecting us now, thinking that Augusta or Charleston are our objectives. I think Slocum will be abreast of Columbia to-morrow. I will keep with the leading division of this corps.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—If you want more roads beyond Sandy Creek you can depend on any number to the left. The country is poor pine land and full of farm roads. To-day the road was perfect and there seemed any number running to every point of the compass.

S.

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, No 11.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Congaree Creek, S. C., February 15, 1865.

In consideration of the hardships and exposures cheerfully submitted to by officers of this command in general, in their strict compliance with orders, which is characteristic of all faithful and efficient soldiers, the general commanding deems it due them that Capt. John W. Cornyn, commissary of subsistence, Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, be publicly reprimanded for transporting and using for his own private comfort a number of wall-tents in direct violation of orders.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 39.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Congaree Creek, S. C., February 15, 1865.

The movement to-morrow will be a continuation of to-day's operations. The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will hold the right and work forward toward Columbia. The

* See Part I, p. 197.

Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will bridge the Congaree Creek near his present position and close up on the left of the Fifteenth Army Corps. All trains will close up on their respective corps as soon as the roads are in readiness. The pontoon train will move forward and park near the Fifteenth Army Corps.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Congaree Creek, February 15, 1865.

Maj. Gen. O. O. HOWARD,
Commanding Department and Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you I have established my headquarters south of Congaree Creek, on the right-hand side of the road just at the bridge. The corps is in camp, the First and Second Divisions in line on the other side of the creek, and the Fourth Division in reserve, one brigade across the creek. The trains of the corps are in park about two miles back, with the Third Division in position covering the park.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 46. } HDQRS. FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *On Congaree Creek, S. C., February 15, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

II. Should the enemy leave our front during the night the movements on Columbia, S. C., will be continued to-morrow morning in the following order: Major-General Hazen, commanding Second Division, having the right, will move at 8 a. m. along the State road to that point; the First Division will follow the Second Division; the Fourth Division will follow the First Division. The troops will move in light order; trains to be parked in the fields just this side of Congaree Creek. The ambulance trains and ordnance wagons, with ammunition to make 100 rounds per man, will move with the troops; the rest of the trains will remain in park. The result of the demonstration ordered for daylight to-morrow will be reported as soon as anything may be ascertained. The Third Division, Major-General Smith commanding, will break camp at 7 a. m., moving forward in rear of the Fourth Division. His train will park with the other trains of the corps, except the ambulance train and a sufficient number of ordnance wagons.

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By order of Maj. Gen. John A. Logan:

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Little Congaree River, S. C., February 15, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that at 7 a. m. I started out of camp, taking the direct road toward Columbia. Within less than a mile from

my camp I began skirmishing with the rebels, who resisted my advance with much stubbornness. Upon nearing the Little Congaree the enemy was developed in considerable force with artillery, which they used freely. Two of my brigades were very soon deployed, the one to the right and the other to the left of the road, with orders to endeavor to effect a crossing over the stream. My skirmishers succeeded in getting over a short time before dark, the rebels withdrawing as soon as it was discovered that I was obtaining a foothold on their side of the creek. I am now in position about one mile from the bridge, my line intrenched, with the left resting on the river and the right connecting with the Second Division. The casualties in my command to-day were: Killed, 5 enlisted men; wounded, 12; total, 17 enlisted men. My headquarters are in rear of center of my line.

I am, major, very respectfully.

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 15, 1865.

Major-General WOODS,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The enemy have been using artillery for some time past. Have you been able to ascertain the cause of this demonstration on his part? Have you noticed any changes on your front? The commanding general is anxious to know the occasion of their firing.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

Major WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I cannot tell the reason of this demonstration on part of the enemy, unless it be solely for our annoyance. They are all quiet in front of me. The firing is on my right, and does not reach my camp. No changes in my front as far as I can discover.

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Columbia, S. C., February 15, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: Inclosed please find report* of Colonel Catterson concerning the fire of the rebel battery. From the position of the battery I fear it will annoy us very much as soon as it becomes daylight, being on our right rear and across the river. Should the rebels have much artillery over there, I fear it would render the right of our line untenable.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

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* Not found.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Congaree Creek, S. C., February 15, 1865.

[General C. R. WOODS:]

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to direct you to push forward your skirmish line at daylight to-morrow morning, to ascertain whether the rebels are still in our front, and if so, to develop their position, and as far as possible the character of the force occupying their works. Please report the result of the demonstration as soon as anything may be ascertained.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Hazen.)

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Congaree Creek, S. C., February 15, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that I broke camp this morning at 8.30 a. m., marching to a point about two miles north of the Congaree Creek near the Congaree River, where the division went into position in line of battle, making works in its front, the right resting on the Congaree River. During the night the enemy from across the river fired artillery into the camp at regular intervals, killing 1 and wounding 2. My headquarters are with the division.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Tom's Creek, S. C., February 15, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this division broke camp at 7 o'clock this a. m., but was unable, owing to the roads being occupied by the trains of other divisions, to move to exceed half a mile until 11 o'clock, when it moved to Bates' Ferry, on Congaree River, at which place, in accordance with orders from corps headquarters, a demonstration was made by both artillery and infantry. About twenty-five or thirty of the enemy, apparently a picket guard, were discovered upon the opposite side of the river, who fled upon their being fired upon. In compliance with orders from headquarters, one regiment has been left at the ferry as picket guard. The remainder of the command is encamped at this place, the trains upon the right and the troops upon the left of the main Columbia road. These headquarters are established upon the left of the road and about 100 yards south of Tom's Creek.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Congaree Creek, S. C., February 15, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to detail the movements of my command during the day, as follows: I broke camp at 8 a. m. sharp, and moved in rear of the Second Division of this corps on the Orangeburg and Columbia road, making repeated halts, owing to the detention of the advance division by the enemy's skirmishers, which were struck at an early hour in the morning. At 4.30 p. m. I had reached a point two miles from the Congaree Creek, and commenced placing my command in bivouac, when I received orders from corps headquarters to move my command forward upon the above-named creek, where I arrived at 6 p. m., and placed my command in position, as follows: Third Brigade across the creek and on the right-hand side of the road, and the remaining two brigades on the right bank of the creek on either side of the road, remaining in this position during the night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Congaree Creek, S. C., February 15, 1865.

Lieutenant-Colonel TWEEDDALE,
Commanding First Missouri Engineers:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs me to request you to move your command in rear of the Third Division of this corps, which will break camp to-morrow morning at 7 a. m.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
In the Field, near Columbia, February 15, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that to-morrow morning you cross Congaree Creek at either of the bridges in your front, and reconnoiter the second line of the enemy with a view to the passage of Congaree River, and the movement on Columbia. General Logan broke their line at the crossing of the Congaree Creek, and moving forward found a second line about a mile in advance of the first and along the heights this side of the river, and within full view of the city. The general desires that you keep him informed during the day of the success of your movements.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 42. } *Near Taylor's Bridge, S. C., February 15, 1865.*

The orders for to-morrow are:

1. Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will have the advance and will move forward at 7 a. m.

2. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will follow General Smith, being prepared to move at 8 o'clock.

3. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will follow the First Division, being prepared to move at 9 o'clock.

4. The trains will move in rear of the troops in the same order as the divisions. Each division commander will leave two regiments with his train.

The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will be prepared to move at 7 o'clock, and will receive orders from Captain Henley, aide-de-camp.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Cross-Roads, Two Miles South of Lexington, S. C., February 15, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move your corps on the road to Columbia, marching through Lexington, starting to-morrow morning at 6 o'clock. When you reach Leaphart's he wishes you to report to him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Boozer's House, February 15, 1865.

Brig. Gen. W. P. CARLIN,
Commanding First Division, Fourteenth Army Corps:

From the best information that can be obtained Wheeler's cavalry is now passing through Lexington toward Columbia. The general commanding directs that you get your division under arms immediately and push on into Lexington, getting possession of the Columbia road and remaining there to-night. One brigade of the Twentieth Corps has been ordered forward, but may not have reached the town. You will take command of this brigade in addition to your own force, by order of General Slocum through General Davis. General Wheeler has been driven by Generals Morgan and Kilpatrick in much confusion.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. McCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Boozer's House, February 15, 1865.

Brig. Gen. J. D. MORGAN,
Commanding Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you move your command at 6 a. m. to-morrow via the cross-roads at this point and through Lexington by Leaphart's, upon Columbia.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. McCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Lexington, S. C., February 15, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow toward Columbia, as follows: Third Division at 7 a. m., First Division at 7.30 a. m., Second Division at 8 a. m. The troops of the Third and First Divisions will march unencumbered in the advance. The Second Division will cover the whole trains of the corps. General Geary will also march one brigade as rear guard. One section of artillery will accompany the rear guard. One battery will march immediately in rear of the advanced brigade of the Third Division; the balance of the artillery will march immediately in rear of the Third Division. The wagons, battery wagons, and forges of the artillery will march immediately in rear of the trains of the Michigan Engineers, who will march with their troops and trains immediately in rear of the troops of the First Division, starting at 8 a. m. All foraging to-morrow must be done along the road over which we march; no foraging parties will be sent from the column.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Lexington, S. C., February 15, 1865.

Brig. Gen. J. W. GEARY,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The brevet major-general commanding the corps directs that you send at once a brigade of infantry from your command to occupy and hold Lexington. A battery of artillery has been ordered to report to you to accompany the brigade. The general thinks the brigade should be pushed through the town and intrenched on the opposite side.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Lexington, S. C., February 15, 1865.

Brevet Major-General GEARY,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The brevet major-general commanding the corps directs me to inform you that a division of the Fourteenth Corps has been

ordered to Lexington, to hold the town. They will arrive there probably within the next hour. They will relieve your brigade. As soon as relieved the general desires that you will bring back both the infantry and artillery and have them join their respective commands.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 15, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. GROVER,
Commanding District of Savannah:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to call your attention to a letter from Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck, bearing date of December 31, 1864, a copy of which I inclose,* directing that the wives and families of officers in the rebel armies now residing in Savannah be sent from that city into the rebel lines. You will please have a correct and complete list of all such parties forwarded to these headquarters on or before the 23d day of February, instant.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Savannah, February 15, 1865.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Headquarters Department of the South:

Your telegram, ordering me to hold a regiment in readiness to relieve the garrison at Fort Pulaski is received. In reply, I would respectfully refer to my telegram with regard to the detachment of 1,000 men.

C. GROVER,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Federal Point, February 15, 1865.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: General Sherman's instructions to me, through General Foster, a copy of which I inclose,† make the capture of Kinston of primary importance, and seem to regard that of Wilmington as secondary, while your instructions, under which I am acting, make the capture of Wilmington the first object. The difference will be immaterial if I succeed in making any considerable advance along the Wilmington and Goldsborough Railroad before General Sherman comes up. If not, it occurs to me that it may embarrass General Sherman if he does not know exactly what I am doing and to what point he must look for

* See Vol. XLIV, p. 846.
† See Sherman to Foster, January 29, p. 163.

supplies. My object is simply to call your attention to this matter in case it may have escaped your notice, so that if practicable to communicate with General Sherman he may be informed. I think with you that Wilmington should be taken first, for I cannot safely calculate on making a junction with General Sherman at any point farther north.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Federal Point, February 15, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States, City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: On the 11th, after landing one division of the Twenty-third Corps, I pushed forward General Terry's line east of Cape Fear River and found the enemy in a strongly intrenched position opposite Fort Anderson, running from the river to Masonborough Sound. In the advance we lost about 60 in killed and wounded, and captured 54 prisoners. Information obtained by General Comstock after you were here shows that the enemy's line west of the river runs from Fort Anderson to a pond, formed by damming Orton Creek, and running back into a swamp some eight or nine miles in length, so that Fort Anderson cannot be turned without going around that swamp. Not deeming the force I then had sufficient for such a move, I directed my attention to the possibility of turning the enemy's position by crossing Masonborough Sound. General Comstock made a reconnaissance on the 11th, from which the move seemed quite practicable. The plan was to land pontoons and Navy small boats on the beach about two miles south of Masonborough Inlet, haul them across the peninsula to the sound at a place where it is only about 300 yards wide, march the troops along the beach to the point of crossing, and transfer them to the mainland before daylight in the morning. All arrangements were made for executing the plan on the 12th, but in the afternoon a northeast wind sprung up, which rendered such operations impossible. The wind has continued to blow from the sea since that time. Yesterday I succeeded, after much difficulty, in getting the pontoon wagons ashore, and determined to make the attempt to haul them along the beach to the point where we could cross the sound. The teams made such slow progress that at midnight I became satisfied we could not reach the point in time to commence the crossing before daylight, and hence could not reasonably expect success. I therefore abandoned the enterprise. This plan was a favorite one with General Comstock, and I believe, had the wind been favorable, would undoubtedly have been successful. At all events we have lost nothing by making the attempt. My second division commenced to arrive yesterday, and I can now commence operations west of the river without further delay. The enemy's camps indicate some increase of his force since I arrived here, but I have no definite information on the subject. I have no information from General Palmer later than the 10th. He ought to be moving about this time.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 15, 1865.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff, Armies of the United States, City Point, Va.:

The pontoon train I now have is so heavy that I fear it will cause serious delays in operations over the bad roads which prevail in this country. If you can send me some of the cloth bateaux I think it will facilitate my operations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 15, 1865.

Admiral D. D. PORTER,
Commanding North Atlantic Squadron:

I failed to get my boats up the beach and shall return to the original plan. I would like to use your tugs to carry troops across the river to-morrow.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 15, 1865.

Colonel DODGE,
Chief Quartermaster:

The commanding general desires to know (to-night) how many troops can be carried to Smithville at one trip by all the boats, including the navy tugs Nansemond, Eolus, Wilderness, and Moccasin. The general directs that you have all the boats for carrying troops to Smithville ready at the Federal Point wharf at 8 a. m. to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
Federal Point, N. C., February 15, 1865.

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: In reply to your communication of this date, I have the honor to inform you that I can transport 2,500 troops at one trip to Smithville. I hope to be able to ship all the land transportation during the night. I shall also transport the One hundred and eleventh Ohio Regiment to-night. The brigade that has arrived at Smithville is Colonel Moore's command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. S. DODGE,
Colonel and Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 15, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you move your command to Smithville to-morrow. Have your advance at the Federal Point wharf at 8 a. m. The commanding general will inform you to-night how many men the boats can carry at once. Transportation for the luggage will be furnished by the quartermaster's department.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 15, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER 111TH REGIMENT OHIO INFANTRY:

SIR: The commanding general directs that you proceed with your command by steamer this p. m. to Smithville. Colonel Dodge, chief quartermaster, will designate the steamer on which you will embark.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 13. } HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS, *Federal Point, N. C., February 15, 1865.*

I. The command will move to Smithville to-morrow morning. The Second Brigade, Brevet Brigadier-General Casement commanding, will move at 7 a. m. to the landing at the point.

The First and Third Brigades will be held in readiness to move, and await further orders.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
SMITHVILLE AND FORT CASWELL, N. C.,
February 15, 1865.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Department of North Carolina:

SIR: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to orders received from Major-General Schofield, I made a reconnaissance from this point to-day. I took 300 infantry, and with it proceeded up the road running to Fort Anderson. About three miles from this point encountered about forty cavalry, who retired before us. About five miles from here, at White Springs, again met cavalry re-enforced to about 100. I was informed by citizens and negroes that these troops belonged to a South Carolina regiment which was encamped about three miles above White Springs. I found the roads in good condition and nearly all of the citizens living at home. There has been no force of the enemy this

side of Reeves' Point, except scouting parties, since the fall of Fort Fisher. I sent about 100 men down the Lockwood's Folly road, under command of Major Jones, One hundred and forty-second New York State Volunteers, who advanced six and a half miles, meeting but four rebels, and finding the road good. I append an imperfect sketch* of the country so far as surveyed.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. BARNEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel 142d New York State Vols., Commanding Post.

CONFIDENTIAL.] QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., February 15, 1865.

Brig. Gen. INNIS N. PALMER,
Commanding District of North Carolina, New Berne, N. C.:

GENERAL: I have received your letters of 2d, 7th, and 8th instant, relating to confidential instructions and inclosing requisitions. General Sherman's general plans, so far as he had himself elaborated them, were communicated to me in conversation at Savannah. The animals referred to will bring their own wagons with them to whatever point on the sea coast he may touch. He sent requisitions North for supplies to be collected at Port Royal, and to be held in readiness for his use whenever he, by communicating with the navy on the coast, should call for them. Steamers are at Port Royal, to be used in the transportation of his supplies. The railroad repair corps was sent by him to North Carolina. The stores, wagons, &c., which you ask for local use have been ordered, and will be forwarded as they can be obtained. Heavy demands have lately been made upon our Eastern depots by the sudden movement of troops from the West, requiring a new outfit here, and we are short of ambulances and some of the things for which you ask. The steamers of very light draft in the possession of the department are either within your reach in North Carolina or are at Savannah, with the exception of Western river boats, and are sent from Maine to Mobile. General Easton, General Sherman's chief quartermaster, remained at Savannah to regulate the question of supplies, and, as General Sherman's command includes the Department of the South, he has control of the river steamers captured at Savannah and of the light-draft steamers sent to Port Royal and Savannah to aid in supplying General Sherman's troops, as well as of those which have heretofore constituted the transportation of the Department of the South. So many of these as he finds necessary he will, if the ocean will permit, take to the new base. I do not think that we shall be able to send you a steamer of 30-inch draft, but the chief of the division of army transportation has had his attention called to your request, and it will be done, if practicable. The charter of the Ulysses, if in accordance with the usual terms and the law, will be approved. The law requires certain inspection. General Schofield is in command in North Carolina, to co-operate with General Sherman, and General Gillmore has gone to Hilton Head, Foster being lame and coming North to submit to another operation.

Wishing you every success, I am, respectfully and truly, your obedient servant and friend,

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General, Brevet Major-General.

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* Omitted.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 16, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The Richmond Whig of to-day has the following:

FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.

We are indebted to the Express Company for Augusta papers of the 10th, from which we learn that the Yankees on Thursday morning were at Windsor, about fifteen miles from Aiken; it is not known in what force. No movements were made by them on Thursday; cause of this not ascertained. The troops in the vicinity of Windsor are Kilpatrick's corps. It is reported that Generals Hampton and Wheeler engaged the enemy on the 7th and 8th, repulsing them at all points. Our loss is about seventy, killed, wounded, and missing; that of the enemy much greater. The enemy are reported to be massing toward the Congaree River. A gentleman from Columbia states that Slocum's corps is moving on that city on this side of the Edisto. His main line, when last heard from, was on the railroad. It is stated in Columbia that Kilpatrick's corps is protecting Slocum's left. It is ascertained that Potter is again moving on Charleston. When last heard from he was at Green Pond. It is not known where Sherman himself is. Barnwell Court-House was burned on Monday night. The roads are teeming with vehicles, stock, and all kinds of movable property, fleeing for Georgia and upper Carolina.

SHERMAN'S MOVEMENTS.

The Express of yesterday says that—

Parties who left Columbia on Friday evening last represent it as the belief in Columbia that Sherman had cut loose entirely from the various points upon which he had demonstated, and was hastening with all possible rapidity toward Kingsville or Columbia, possibly both. All movements toward Branchville, Charleston, and Augusta seem to have been abandoned. From Blackville and Orangeburg there is an excellent country road, and as Sherman appears to have got somewhat the start of our forces, considerable apprehensions were felt at Columbia that he would reach there before he could be overtaken.

The Congaree, a considerable stream, has to be crossed before reaching either Kingsville or Columbia, but Sherman has pontoon trains and an efficient engineer corps with him, and crosses streams with surprising facility. Extensive preparations were being made at Columbia to receive the great flanker, and it was hoped that he would at least be held in check until our forces could come up.

Sherman is said to have a very large army, and he may divide, sending one column to Kingsville and the other to Columbia. This would enable him to destroy the Columbia and Charlotte and Wilmington and Manchester railroads at one and the same time, provided he is not checked. It is also stated that Sherman is but little encumbered with commissary and quartermaster's trains. Relying upon his great success in Georgia, he feeds his men and horses off the country as he moves, and all that they do not consume he destroys.

FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

The Wilmington paper says that the usually quiet citizens of Little River and the surrounding country have been recently disturbed by the landing of a considerable force of Yankees in their midst. It is understood that the object is to strike the Manchester railroad at a point in the vicinity of Whiteville, in Columbus County.

The same paper says: The air in our own town yesterday seemed very much impregnated with some whisperings in relation to important movements which we decline publishing, as we are in secret session and officially reticent.

NOT CAPTURED.

It affords us much pleasure to be able to state that the naval party supposed to be captured are now known to be safe.

FROM CHARLESTON.

The Courier of the 9th says: Some fifteen or twenty schooners, supposed to be supply-vessels for Sherman's army, passed the bar Wednesday morning going north. About dark last evening there was an unusual display of signals between the fleet and the land batteries. No change in the fleet is reported.

THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

The general exchange of prisoners has been resumed, and the understanding is, we believe, that it will be continued until all the prison-houses on both sides are emptied and the captives liberated. Humanity may smile again. It is almost impossible to conceive the joy which this announcement and the return of absent loved ones will convey to thousands of households, and the prisoners themselves, Confederates and Yankees, will rejoice as they have never rejoiced before. We learn that the exchange will go on at the rate of about 1,000 per day.

The Examiner says:

We learned at a late hour last night that a dispatch had been received in one of the offices of the Government, stating that the local force in Columbia had been ordered out, and that skirmishing had been going on with the enemy in the vicinity of that city. The dispatch is dated the 14th instant. General Echols succeeds Breckinridge in Southwestern Virginia. Hampton has been made lieutenant-general, and now commands all the cavalry fronting Sherman.

The Dispatch says:

It was reported yesterday morning that our troops were evacuating Wilmington. The report is not confirmed by official dispatches received yesterday. General Baker, in command of our forces at Goldsborough, reports to the War Department that he has reason to believe the enemy are concentrating at New Berne, and that they have with them materials for repairing the railroad from New Berne to Kinston. Gideon J. Pillow has been appointed commissary-general of prisoners.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 16, 1865—5 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *City Point:*

I have just learned from General Meigs and the Commissary-General that requisitions for sixty days' supplies are being filled and sent to Port Royal, and that similar requisitions have just been received from General Schofield to be sent to Beaufort, N. C. This does not agree with my understanding with General Sherman. I understood from him that shipments to Port Royal for his army were to cease as soon as he should reach the interior of South Carolina, and that the remainder of his supplies should be ready to meet him at Georgetown, S. C., Cape Fear River, or New Berne, N. C. It will not be possible to accumulate sufficient supplies at all these points, nor will it be possible to keep supplies on ocean transports, as they are exceedingly scarce. Moreover, supplies can be sent from New York and Fort Monroe to any point north of Georgetown much sooner than from Port Royal. We shall hear of Sherman's whereabouts much sooner than they will at Port Royal, and can send him supplies sooner than we can send word to Port Royal. It therefore seems to me that to send such a large amount to Port Royal now will result in enormous expense and great inconvenience. By direction of the Secretary of War I refer this matter for your instructions.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 16, 1865—7.30 p. m.*
(Received 10.30 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK, *Washington:*

There is no necessity for sending supplies to Port Royal for the use of Sherman's army. There is scarcely a possibility of Sherman's requiring supplies from Port Royal, and if he should we would hear through

rebel sources in time to send those on shipboard intended for Georgetown to him. By having a good supply on hand for the troops in the Department of the South they could always supply Sherman for a few days until more could reach him.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

(Copy furnished by Halleck to Quartermaster-General, Commissary-General, and Ordnance Department.)

CONFIDENTIAL.] QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., February 16, 1865.

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: On the 30th December and 2d January last, General Easton, chief quartermaster of General Sherman's army, addressed to this office letters, of which I inclose copies*, asking that sixty days grain for 35,000 animals, sixty days' rations for 70,000 men, and six light-draft steamers, clothing, and other stores, should be shipped on as light vessels as possible to Savannah and Hilton Head for the use of General Sherman's army. He also asked for six light-draft steamers. The wants of General Sherman had been anticipated and most of the supplies asked for had been ordered and were on the coast or on the way to Savannah when he reached that city. During his halt at Savannah, however, he consumed the forage and rations, and daily shipments replaced the stores thus consumed. While in Savannah about the middle of January I saw General Sherman, General Easton, his chief quartermaster, and General Beckwith, chief commissary, and discussed the mode of supply. General Sherman made me acquainted with his general plan of campaign, and appeared to dwell upon the possibility of being strongly opposed at the Santee River. He several times remarked that if disappointed in crossing this river he might be obliged to make for the coast near its mouth, and said he wished the navy to keep a careful lookout about Georgetown. General Easton and General Beckwith, acting under orders of General Sherman, expected to remain at Savannah and to take charge of the supplies and forward them to whatever point on the coast General Sherman should ultimately order. General Easton on 4th February sends me a letter with requisitions for clothing to be sent to Savannah for General Sherman's army, and for the large re-enforcement which that army is to receive under command of General Schofield. To-day I have, however, requests from General Schofield to send 400,000 rations of forage and 20,000 pairs of shoes to Beaufort for General Sherman's army. The shoes I have ordered there. They will be useful in North Carolina, even if not needed by General Sherman. Whether to stop sending forage to be held under General Easton at Port Royal and Savannah, and to turn the shipments into Beaufort, or no, I am now doubtful. It is of so much importance that there be no confusion as to the means and route of supplies for General Sherman that I desire to have definite information. General Schofield, I presume, has his orders under which he asks this forage. General Easton's action is in conformity with all that I have heard from him and from General Sherman himself at Savannah up to the 19th of January, the day I left there. Whenever the rebel papers or their

* See Vol. XLIV, p. 837, and p. 8, *ante*.

information show that General Sherman is approaching any port on the coast, supplies from New York and the northern depots will be at once turned in that direction, but until definite information reaches us, it seems to me that it will be proper to continue accumulating these supplies at Port Royal, according to the requests of his chief supply officers and my knowledge of his own expressed wishes. General Sherman's staff officers were clear in their expressions to me of a desire to have complete control of the supplies and means of moving them, and for this purpose desired that they should be collected at Port Royal and Savannah, and be subject to their orders. This seemed to be also General Sherman's object in some degree in having them sent to that point. Another one seemed to be the possibility which he entertained of his going to Georgetown. This he contemplated only as the result of a check in his operations. Georgetown, Cape Fear, and Beaufort are all south of Hatteras. Supplies from Port Royal for these ports will not be exposed to detention by storms off that cape when put in motion. Since writing the above I have your copy of a dispatch from General Grant, that there can be no necessity for sending General Sherman's supplies to Port Royal, and will prepare to ship supplies to Beaufort unless otherwise advised. Yet I apprehend some derangement of General Sherman's scheme of supply from the change.

Respectfully,

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 26.

HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Columbia, S. C.,
February 16, 1865.

The next series of movements will be on Fayetteville, N. C., and thence to Wilmington or Goldsborough, according to events. Great care must be exercised in collecting forage and food, and at the same time in covering the wagon trains from cavalry dashes.

I. General Howard will cross the Saluda and Broad Rivers as near their mouths as possible, occupy Columbia, destroy the public buildings, railroad property, manufacturing and machine shops, but will spare libraries and asylums and private dwellings. He will then move to Winnsborough, destroying en route utterly that section of the railroad. He will also cause all bridges, trestles, water-tanks, and depots on the railroad back to the Wateree to be burned, switches broken, and such other destruction as he can find time to accomplish consistent with the proper celerity. For movements of his army he will select roads that cross the Wateree to the south of Lancaster.

II. Generals Slocum and Kilpatrick will cross the Saluda River near Mount Zion, and the Broad River below or at Alston, and will cause the destruction of the bridge at Alston and the railroad back toward Columbia as far as possible, aiming to be in communication with Winnsborough by the time General Howard reaches that point. They will study to get roads in the direction of Lancaster, and should they have any spare time on reaching the Great Northern Railroad they will prolong the break in the direction north of Winnsborough.

III. Col. O. M. Poe, chief engineer, will cause the First Regiment Michigan Engineers to accompany the Right Wing, and have it destroy as much of the railroad from Columbia northward through and beyond Winnsborough as possible, working in concert with any troops he may find employed at that work.

IV. The general-in-chief will be with the left division of the Right Wing, or right division of the Left Wing, or as near the center of the army as possible, and will from time to time advise commanding officers of his whereabouts. He also expects the fullest possible reports of subordinate commanders. In the absence of specific orders the Right Wing will be the "column of direction," and will aim for Winnsborough, Cheraw, Fayetteville, &c.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, February 16, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD:

DEAR GENERAL: I see the bridge over Broad burning. It is very important that you effect a crossing to-night. If necessary, get over the Saluda the bulk of the Fifteenth Corps, then take up enough pontoons to finish one across the Broad. Send an officer with the inclosed note to General Slocum, who can send you ten before daylight. Slocum can cross Broad River as high up as Alston and thereby use his bridges at one day's interval.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

Send the inclosed by an officer to conduct the pontoons.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, February 16, 1865.

Major-General SLOCUM:

GENERAL: General Howard has to pass Saluda and Broad Rivers at the same time, requiring more bridging than he has. I send this through him that he may note on it how many he wants. I suppose you can spare ten, as you will be able to remove that over the Saluda before you pass the Broad. In case Howard calls for any pontoons he will conduct them to the point where he needs them.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 17. } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., February 16, 1865.

* * * * * * *

III. Lieut. Col. C. H. Howard, aide-de-camp, staff of the major-general commanding, will immediately proceed to Savannah, Ga., on public business; which completed, he will, should the opportunity be afforded, proceed to the army in the field and report to the major-general commanding. If the way is not open, he will return to these headquarters. Government transports will furnish him the necessary transportation.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 40.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Congaree Creek, S. C., February 16, 1865.

* * * * * * *

V. The following will be the movements of this command to-morrow: The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will cross the Broad River and take up position beyond the Charlotte and South Carolina Railroad, facing eastward, and be prepared to destroy the road from the city fifteen miles southward. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, following the Fifteenth Army Corps, will take up position on the west side of the railroad, facing northward, and be prepared to destroy the railroad from the city toward Winnsborough. The trains of department headquarters will follow the leading division of the Seventeenth Army Corps. Department cattle herd will follow the Seventeenth Army Corps.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Congaree Creek, S. C., February 16, 1865.

Major BURKHARDT,
Commanding Twenty-ninth Missouri Mounted Infantry:

MAJOR: I am directed by the general commanding to instruct you to move your command to this point. Leave about one-third of your mounted men on this side of the river to picket the different roads leading into our park, and with the rest of your command cross the creek and push off to the left to make connection with the other corps moving in that direction.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Congaree Creek, S. C., February 16, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to forward the inclosed note from Major-General Woods with reference to the movements of the enemy for the information of the major-general commanding. As will be seen, we have advanced our skirmish line and now occupy the works of the rebels discovered in our front last night. The general has gone to the front.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION,
February 16, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: In obedience to your orders I advanced my skirmishers at daylight this a. m. There is no enemy in my front. My skirmishers are in the deserted rebel works on the left.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Broad River, S. C., February 16, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. WOODS,
Commanding First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I want you to put one of your brigades across the river in small boats as rapidly as possible. When across they will throw up a bridge-head, so as to completely protect the pontoon bridge to be laid, and push their skirmishers out as far as they can without endangering them too much; also, have your pioneers at work fixing the road on both sides of the river and assist in laying the bridge. Please give this your personal attention and the laying of the bridge your supervision, so that you may cross early in the morning into Columbia.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Broad River, S. C., February 16, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that at daylight this morning I pushed my skirmishers forward, as was directed in your communication last night, but found no enemy in my front. Moving during the morning in rear of the Second Division I halted for a short time and took position on the State road, near the crossing of the Congaree, when receiving orders I again moved out in rear of the Second Division. The road, however, was so crowded with trains I was unable to reach the ground assigned me until after dark. My troops are encamped, two brigades front, on the river bluff, just above the Factory road. One of my brigades, the Third, is crossing over in the pontoon boats, intending to cover the laying of the pontoons at this point. My headquarters are near the right of my line.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Broad River, S. C., February 16, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. WOODS,
Commanding First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: General Logan having received instructions from Major-General Howard to effect a crossing of the Broad River as soon as pos-

sible and to push a brigade into Columbia to-night directs me to request you to push one of your brigades across the stream and throw up a bridge-head covering the crossing. Leaving a sufficient guard in this work, you will please push this brigade into Columbia along the direct road, so that the city may be occupied by daylight. In making this movement you will please instruct the commanding officer of your advance brigade to move cautiously on the city with a good advance guard and flankers thrown out along the column. Should he meet with too serious opposition he will fall back slowly on the bridge-head and there hold his position. It will be understood, however, that the opposition must be serious, as it is necessary to occupy the city by an early hour to-morrow. As soon as the bridge has been laid you will please cross the rest of your command and move in support of your advance brigade.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Columbia, S. C., February 16, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that in obedience to orders I sent forward my skirmish line at daylight this morning, and that they found the country west of the Congaree and Saluda Rivers evacuated by the enemy. At 8 a. m. the division moved opposite Columbia, and soon after to the crossing of the Saluda, near Saluda Factory, where two regiments were crossed in boats, driving away the enemy, and afterwards the entire division crossed and pushed on to the Broad, but failed to save the bridge. Early this morning two men were wounded from the shots of the enemy across the Congaree River. My headquarters are at the white house, about a half mile west of the Broad River.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 43. HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Columbia, S. C., February 16, 1865.

Division commanders will cause their white pioneer corps to report at once to Captain Kossak, chief engineer, at the houses that are near the battery that is playing on the city.

II. Division commanders will cause all animals in their commands ridden by unauthorized persons to be seized at the crossing of the Broad River. They will dispose of the serviceable animals in their batteries, escort companies, trains, and quartermaster's department. The worthless ones will be shot.

III. The following are the orders for to-morrow:

Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will have the advance in crossing the river, and will be prepared to move at daylight, but will not move until he receives orders.

Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will be prepared to move at 7 o'clock, and will follow the First Division.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will be prepared to move at 8 o'clock, and will follow the Third Division.

The trains will move with their respective divisions.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 11.

HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Zion Church, S. C., February 16, 1865.

The corps will move to-morrow as follows:

General Carlin will move at 6 a. m., taking the main road from Columbia up the Saluda River via the Dutch Church; at that point taking the right-hand road until nearly opposite Eleazar or Rockville Post-Office, and thence striking across to that point.

General Morgan will move at 6 a. m., crossing the Saluda River, and taking the road via South Oakville Post-Office and Metts', and opposite the mouth of Wateree Creek, or Freshly's, at which point he will receive further instructions.

General Baird, with the trains of the corps, will move at 7 a. m. on the direct road to Columbia until he reaches Draft's house; thence take the left-hand road, via this point, and, crossing the river, will take the road used by General Morgan's division.

Corps headquarters train, with the reserve artillery and ammunition train, the First Michigan Engineers, and the pontoon train, will move at 7 in the rear of General Morgan's division.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.]

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Columbia, S. C., February 16, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow to Zion Church as follows: First Division at 8 a. m., Second Division at 9 a. m., Third Division at 10 a. m. Each division will cover its own train. General Jackson will march one unencumbered brigade in the advance. General Ward will march two regiments as rear guard. One section of artillery will accompany the rear guard; the balance of the artillery will march immediately in rear of the advance brigade. The Michigan Engineers, with their trains, will follow the artillery, starting at 8 a. m.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY COMMAND,
In the Field, Lexington, S. C., February 16, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: I have at my headquarters a discharged Confederate soldier, who left Richmond Saturday evening last at 6 p. m. He left Columbia yesterday evening. He reports R. E. Lee and Longstreet

stopping at the Palmetto House. He thinks that, all told, militia and regular troops, the enemy has not over 20,000 effective men. Only a portion of S. D. Lee's corps is in Columbia. Longstreet's corps, or a portion of it, was expected, but Grant's attack on Burgess' and Armstrong's Mills, near Petersburg, delayed the departure. A large portion of Wheeler's cavalry is now in and around Columbia; the remaining portion was in my rear at noon to-day, but is at this present moment crossing the river about fifteen miles above this point. Major-General Hampton is in Columbia, with two brigades of cavalry, Butler's and Young's, but not mounted. Their horses are now up in Fairfield District; have been sent for, and are not expected before Sunday. Seventeen hundred Federal officers were yesterday at noon still in Columbia, confined near the asylum. Nearly 20,000 of our prisoners he reports now in a large stockade on the Charlotte and Columbia Railroad ten miles from Columbia. I don't fear Wheeler and Hampton combined, even without supports. Wheeler's men have thrown away and I have destroyed upward of 1,500 stand of arms in the various stampedes my people have given different portions of his command since leaving Sister's Ferry. In the fight near Aiken, in which one of my regiments (the Ninety-second Illinois), one company of the Ninth Michigan, and small detachments from the Ninth and Tenth Ohio, and my staff and escort, were alone engaged against Humes' and Allen's divisions, commanded by Wheeler in person, I lost but 25 men killed and wounded and less than 20 taken prisoners. It was not a general fight, but simply a reconnaissance. This party fell slowly back from Aiken before these two divisions, and at 11 a. m. Wheeler, with one brigade, feigned upon my left flank and charged me, mounted, with his entire command. I occupied a strong position, had no flanks, and he was most handsomely repulsed. His loss before he reached my barricades, in Allen's division alone, according to his official report, was 31 killed and upward of 160 wounded. I took upward of 60 prisoners, and have in my possession 5 battle-flags as proof of our superiority over his cavalry. I am now guarding the country from Wise's Ferry across to and beyond the Two Notch road, and I am scouting the country farther south. I can hear of no force of the enemy in our rear. If I could be thrown across the Saluda I could capture a large number of horses, and should be only too happy to be thrown even across Broad River, when it will take more than Wheeler's cavalry, assisted by Hampton, to keep me off of the Charlotte and Columbia Railroad. I write you this in detail and fully, that you may have the facts in the case. Wheeler has, as usual, reported a victory over my people, whose backs he never yet has seen, and from all that I can learn a portion of our army seems only too willing to believe such reports. Unfortunately for me, Wheeler did not this time have the good fortune to meet and rout, as at Waynesborough, one of our infantry corps.

I am ready, general, for any orders you may have to send me.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,

Brevet Major-General, Commanding Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE CAVALRY,
Roberts' House, S. C., February 16, 1865.

Maj. L. G. ESTES,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: Colonel Jones reports that the banks of the Saluda at Wise's Ferry, on this side, are low and swampy, and that a muddy

creek has to be passed before reaching it, which would require a bridge. He thinks it a bad place to attempt a crossing. The enemy have a picket on the opposite bank, on the bluff which overlooks the ferry and which commands the low lands on this side. He also reports a ferry about one mile and a half below, at Swygert's Mill, where the road is good to the water, with the bluff on this side commanding the low lands on the opposite. The enemy also have a picket at this point, but the colonel says they can be easily dislodged. The river is about 400 feet wide, and may be 500. Forage is plenty. The colonel has captured thirty horses and mules and the men are constantly bringing them in. There is a ford on the Saluda at Dreher's Mills, about four miles from this point, but whether it could be now forded is doubted by the people here. I have just been informed of it, and will send a scout to that [point] to determine the matter. I have left Colonel Jones encamped near the ferry, which I suppose is correct. If not, let me hear from you. Captain MacKnight, of my staff, accompanied Colonel Jones, and fully corroborates his statements. Captain MacKnight thinks the Saluda 250 yards wide.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. J. JORDAN,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY COMMAND,
February 15 [16], 1865—3.30 p. m.

Respectfully forwarded for information of Major-General Davis. Only about 1,500 of Wheeler's people found through Lexington; the remaining portion of his command is now crossing ten miles above this point. If 500 feet of pontoon bridging can be spared me I can cross at the point indicated by Colonel Jones, scatter and break Wheeler up. The entire country in our rear is now free of the enemy, and I can leave this point, so far as the enemy is concerned. I need horses and can capture them on the opposite side. The country is rich. My orderly will bring reply.

Very respectfully,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Zion Church, February 16, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding Left Wing, Army of Georgia.

JEF. C. DAVIS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 16, 1865.

Brigadier-General WEBSTER,
Savannah:

I am this moment in receipt of your dispatch of the 14th in reference to General Grover's command. His force is amply sufficient to garri-

son Savannah City and Fort Pulaski, and I want the garrison of that fort to enable me to carry out with certainty the orders from General Sherman. A part of the regiment is already with General Hatch· 250 men will be enough for Pulaski.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 16, 1865.

COMMANDING GENERAL CONFEDERATE FORCES,
DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, &C.,
Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that I have been authorized by Lieutenant-General Grant, commanding the Armies of the United States, to exchange all the Confederate officers and men now held as prisoners of war within the limits of my command. These number at present about 500, and are mostly officers. I propose to exchange them rank for rank, and where officers of equal rank cannot be obtained, to be governed by the cartel agreed upon in 1862 regulating equivalents. Should this proposition be favorably entertained by you, I request you to appoint an officer to meet Lieutenant-Colonel Woodford, of my staff, and arrange the necessary details. Lieutenant-Colonel Woodford is authorized by me to act in my behalf in all matters connected with the proposed exchange.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 16, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. GROVER,
Savannah, Ga.:

You will at once send a force to relieve the present garrison at Fort Pulaski. The relief must be between 200 and 300 strong, commanded by a good officer. Order the regiment now at Fort Pulaski to proceed to Combahee Ferry, with three days' cooked rations and camp and garrison equipage, and report to General Hatch. The regiment must not leave any effective officers or men behind.

Q. A GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 16, 1865.

Lieut. THOMAS J. ROBINSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Jacksonville, Fla.:

LIEUTENANT: Your letter of the 11th instant to Major-General Foster, informing him of the capture of the expedition under Lieutenant-Colonel Wilcoxson, and also of the serious illness of General Scammon, was duly received. I am directed by Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore, commanding the department, to extend to you his thanks for the informa-

tion, and to state that you acted properly in sending the information in the manner you did. Colonel Tilghman has been instructed to proceed at once to Jacksonville from Saint Augustine to report to district headquarters for duty. He is to assume command of the district should General Scammon still continue to be unfit for duty. Major-General Gillmore directs that you send to these headquarters by return steamer copies of the orders issued ordering the expedition under Lieutenant-Colonel Wilcoxson to go after cotton.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 16, 1865.

Brig. Gen. E. P. SCAMMON,
Commanding District of Florida, Department of the South:

GENERAL: I am directed by Major-General Gillmore, commanding department, to state that he regrets that another disaster should have happened to our troops in Florida after so many cautions to the contrary. The major-general commanding directs me to call your attention particularly to a letter from these headquarters, dated January 29, 1865, which distinctly says that hereafter no party shall be sent out less than 1,000 strong, except when scouts are sent to ascertain the position of the enemy. The report received from your headquarters states that the party captured lately, with Lieutenant-Colonel Wilcoxson in command, numbered only forty-eight men, with ten wagons, and that the entire party was captured. This, besides being a violation of instructions, certainly shows that either parties are sent out in your district without a sufficient knowledge of the strength of the enemy, or that, knowing their strength, the parties are invariably too small. The major-general commanding directs that a full report of this disaster be made as soon as possible, to be accompanied by copies of the orders under which the expedition went out, the object, and at whose instigation they were sent.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 16, 1865.

Col. B. C. TILGHMAN,
Third U. S. Colored Troops, Saint Augustine, Fla.:

COLONEL: Reports from Jacksonville contain the information that Brigadier-General Scammon is so seriously ill as to be unfit for any duty. Unless you have reliable information of his recovery before you receive this letter, you will proceed by the earliest conveyance to Jacksonville and report to district headquarters for duty.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Federal Point, N. C., February 16, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. G. FOSTER, *Comdg. Department of the South:*

GENERAL: I have not had an opportunity of communicating with you since the receipt of your instructions from General Sherman, and now avail myself of your dispatch boat to acknowledge the receipt of your orders, inclosing those of General Sherman, and also of your letter of the 4th instant informing me of his progress. My troops have been much delayed in getting transportation from Washington. Less than half of them have yet arrived. Hence, I have been able to do very little. I shall, however, move against Fort Anderson to-morrow, and hope to get Wilmington in a few days. If I succeed in this I will then open the railroad toward Goldsborough as far and as rapidly as practicable. Should I fail to get Wilmington, which is possible, if it be re-enforced from Richmond, I would then secure possession of the west bank of Cape Fear River, and open communication with General Sherman in the direction of Florence. In any event, I will have supplies for General Sherman's army at the best point attainable. General Grant came here with me and gave me the orders under which I am acting, which differ somewhat from those sent by General Sherman. If you are in safe communication with General Sherman please explain this to him, and inform him what I am doing. In addition to my movement against Wilmington, I have increased General Palmer's force at New Berne by 5,000 men, and ordered him to take Kinston, or at least the railroad crossing of Neuse River. You have doubtless received the War Department orders creating the Department of North Carolina.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 3. HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 16, 1865.

The following officers are assigned to duty as members of the departmental staff. Reports will be made and business transacted through them, in accordance with existing orders and regulations:

Col. George S. Dodge, chief quartermaster; Lieut. Col. R. B. Treat, acting chief commissary of subsistence; Surg. Edward Shippen, acting medical director; Capt. William J. Twining, aide-de-camp, chief engineer.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 4. HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 16, 1865.

First Lieut. E. H. Russell, Signal Corps U. S. Army, having reported at these headquarters in compliance with orders from the War Department, is announced as chief signal officer of the Department of North Carolina.

By order of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Smithville, N. C., February 16, 1865.

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I find no rations are here yet, and it may be late before they get here. In that case I suppose it will be the commanding general's desire that we supply ourselves before starting to-morrow. Please inform me if it is otherwise. If we go round Fort Anderson the road will take us to the left immediately after leaving town, and it will be out of the way to go to Reeves' Point.

Very respectfully,

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 16, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: Your note of this date is just received. Rations are on the way to Smithville, and the commanding general desires you to supply your command with rations before you start, but to go to Fort Anderson to-morrow as previously ordered.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 17, 1865.*

Hon E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

The Richmond Examiner of to-day says:

A dispatch received at the Treasury Department from one of its agents in Columbia reports the local forces there under arms, and that some skirmishing had taken place with the enemy in the vicinity of the town. It is not stated that the enemy was in considerable force there, and something may be allowed for exaggeration and alarm. We have from a gentleman who left Columbia as late as Tuesday last, and who arrived here last night, some interesting news from the military situation there. From this source we have confirmation of a fight on the 11th instant between Wheeler and Kilpatrick, near Aiken. It appears that General Wheeler, after enticing him [from] behind his intrenchments, charged with his whole command and routed the enemy with confusion, driving him back a distance of about five miles. Ammunition giving out it was impossible for our men to push Kilpatrick farther, and the contest there ceased. We took a considerable number of prisoners, among whom were a portion of the Thirty-third Massachusetts Regiment.

The force of the enemy which had taken Orangeburg was said to be about 12,000 strong.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Mr. Anderson, from Committee on Military Affairs, made the following report:

"The General Assembly of Virginia, impressed with the importance of calling into active service the whole physical strength of the Confederate States in this momentous crisis, and it being the opinion of the highest military authority that the efficiency of our army may be greatly increased by the enlistment of negroes: Therefore,

"*Resolved by the General Assembly*, That the Confederate States is authorized, and the consent of this State is hereby given, to enlist such number of able-bodied slaves for military service as may be deemed necessary upon such terms and under such limitations as may be agreed upon between the Confederate Government and the owners of such slaves."

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 41.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Columbia, S. C., February 17, 1865.

The following operations of this command will take place to-morrow: The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, commencing at 7 a. m., will complete the destruction of the Southern Branch of the South Carolina Railroad as far south as possible, detailing for that purpose two divisions of his corps. The Seventeenth Corps, Major-General Blair commanding, will commence at 7 a. m. the destruction of the South Carolina Railroad northward toward Winnsborough, using as far as practicable the entire strength of his corps. The track and ties will be torn up and fired, and the First Regiment Engineers Michigan Volunteers, following, will twist the rails. All trains of the army will close up with their respective corps, and as soon as everything is across Broad River the pontoon bridge will be taken up. That part of it belonging to the Left Wing will return, passing up the west bank of the Broad River. The department cattle herd will cross Broad River to-night. Lieut. Col. William E. Strong, chief of staff, will superintend the destruction of the public buildings, cotton, railroad depots, machine-shops, and manufacturing establishments.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Zion Church, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: If you can spare the ten sections of pontoon I would like to have them returned to-night. If you are not through with them please let me know what time to-morrow you will be through with them, as the Twentieth Corps crosses here to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 17, 1865—1.30 a. m.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: The engineers have thus far been unable to throw a line across the river owing to the very rapid current. The Third Brigade is ready at the river bank, and will cross over as soon as the line can be made fast to the other shore. The officer in command of engineer regiment has tried every expedient to throw a line over, but thus far without effect. Before I left camp I made out and sent you the general's daily report. It was then thought that the Third Brigade was crossing in small boats. The colonel of the engineer regiment thinks that by means of anchoring in center of the stream he may be able to get the line over. Just as soon as the boats can pass I will send you word.

By order of Brevet Major-General Woods:

FRED. H. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 17, 1865—5 a. m.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: The Third Brigade is now crossing over the river in boats. There are some 200 of our troops now on the opposite shore. They are throwing up works to protect the crossing. As soon as the balance of the brigade is over Colonel Stone will immediately move on to Columbia. His brigade will scarcely be able to get started from the other side before daylight.

By order of Brevet Major-General Woods:

FRED. H. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that at 3 o'clock this morning I began crossing the Third Brigade of my division (Colonel Stone commanding) over the Broad River, using three pontoon boats for the purpose. The process was so difficult that it was 7 o'clock before the brigade reached the opposite shore. Passing through the swamps, with skirmishers well thrown forward, the brigade soon reached the high land, and at once took position on a range of hills looking toward the city. The opposition was but slight. The city soon surrendering, Colonel Stone moved forward and occupied the place, the remainder of my division following as soon as the pontoon bridge was laid. I moved beyond the city, encamping on the east side of the Charlotte and South Carolina Railroad, facing eastward. The troops first entering Columbia were met on the roadside by citizens of every grade, who most unwisely furnished them with great quantities of intoxicating liquors, bringing it out in buckets, cups, and vessels of all description. As a result the confusion prevailing throughout the town was increased tenfold, and at night, in obedience to the direction of the corps commander, the brigade on duty as guards in the town was relieved by the First Brigade, commanded by Brevet Brigadier-General Woods, and every practicable measure was promptly adopted to prevent the spreading of the conflagration that was rapidly extending over the entire town and to arrest the countless villains of every command that were roaming over the streets. As strong patrols as could be furnished by the brigade were distributed throughout the town. My headquarters are at the house of Mr. Stark, at the east end of Senate street.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: The troops first entering Columbia were met on the roadside by citizens of every grade, who most unwisely furnished them with

great quantities of intoxicating liquors, bringing it out in buckets, cups, and vessels of every description. As a result the confusion prevailing throughout the town was increased tenfold, and at night, in obedience to the direction of the corps commander, the brigade on duty as guards in the town was relieved by the First Brigade, commanded by Brevet Brigadier-General Woods, and every practicable measure was promptly adopted to prevent the spreading of the conflagration that was rapidly extending over the entire town, and to arrest the countless villains of every command that were roaming over the streets. As strong patrols as could be furnished by the brigade were distributed throughout the town.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, S. C., February 18, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded to the assistant adjutant-general, Department and Army of the Tennessee, for the information of the commanding general. In addition to the brigade under command of Brevet Brigadier-General Woods ordered into town to relieve that commanded by Colonel Stone, one from the Second Division was placed on provost duty.

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.
(In temporary absence of the major-general.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 31. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
Near Broad River, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Upon the laying of the pontoons the balance of the division will immediately cross Broad River, closing up with the advance brigade that is now moving over by means of boats. The order of march will be the same as of yesterday, the Third Brigade leading, followed by the battery, First, and Second Brigades. To-day and hereafter during the campaign, unless it be otherwise ordered, regimental trains will invariably march in rear of their respective regiments, the brigade headquarters teams following their brigades. The wagons of extra ammunition will move with division headquarters just after the battery; the ambulance train following the First Brigade, commanded by Brevet Brigadier-General Woods, commanding.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. Woods:

FRED. H. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 17, 1865.

Major-General HAZEN, U. S. Army,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Yesterday the general commanding requested Colonel Jones to place a guard over the factory buildings, as it was anticipated that we should use the flooring thereof in constructing the bridge. As there is now no necessity for the guard remaining you may withdraw it.

By order:

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command marched at 3 p. m. to-day in rear of the corps with baggage train, crossing Broad River half a mile from camp on pontoon bridge and reached Columbia at 6.30 p. m. Took a position one mile from the city on the Charlotte and South Carolina Railroad, having marched five miles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Columbia, S. C., February 16 [17], 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that my division broke camp and crossed the Broad River at 4 p. m. to-day, and passing through this city camped one mile below it. My headquarters are at a small wood-colored building at about the center of my troops.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Broad River, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the operations of this command for yesterday, the 16th instant, as follows: Broke camp at 7 a. m. and moved across Congaree Creek; halted until near noon, then moved to ground occupied in the morning by First Division. Remained at that point until 2 p. m., and then moved to bank of Congaree River, opposite Columbia. At 4 p. m. received orders to follow Fourth Division and cross Saluda River at Saluda Factory; commenced crossing at the earliest possible moment (11 p. m.). The last of the command (except supply trains) arrived at camp near bridge across Broad River at 2 o'clock this p. m. These headquarters are established on the east side of the main road, opposite the left of the division. The troops were, owing to the lateness of the hour, encamped with reference to their comfort.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Columbia, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the operations of this command for the day, as follows: Broke camp on Broad River at 3 o'clock this p. m.,

crossed Broad River at 4 p. m., and marched through the city of Columbia to a position east of the city and railroad and near the latter. The First Brigade is encamped in line, the right connecting with the Fourth and its left with the First Division. The Second Brigade is in line in rear of and parallel with the First as a reserve. The artillery is in rear of Second Brigade. These headquarters are established on the railroad in rear of the right of the First Brigade.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, on Broad River, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to make the following detailed [report of the] movements and operations of my command during the 16th instant: Pursuant to orders received from the major-general commanding, I moved from my position on Congaree Creek at 10.30 a. m., and diverging from the main traveled road crossed the large open field, marching nearly abreast of the First Division of this corps, and halted on the hill near a cluster of deserted buildings. At 12 m. I received orders from the general commanding, transmitted through a staff officer, to move my division forward by the road and occupy the position just vacated by Major-General Hazen, which I reached and occupied at 1.30 p. m. without resistance from the enemy, with the exception of a field battery which directed its fire against my right, while taking the position assigned, and the wagon trains of the corps (both of which were in easy range and plainly visible to the enemy's guns); their shot, however, were directed too low to produce any evil effects, and the guns were in a very short time completely silenced by a few well-directed and rapid shots from Captain Callahan's battery (H, First Missouri Light Artillery), attached to this division, besides driving the enemy's skirmishers from the river bank on my right. At 4 p. m. I received orders to move my command across the Saluda River, which I succeeded in doing, and bivouacked with my infantry and artillery midway between Saluda and Broad Rivers, known as Dutch Fork, at 10.30 p. m. My train did not all get in until 6.30 a. m., the 17th instant. Owing to the darkness and crowded condition of the roads by the troops and trains, a portion of my command crossed the Saluda River in advance of the trains of the First Division, which was evidently through ignorance on the part of brigade commander, supposing that they were passing the trains of the Fourth Division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 44. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Columbia, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Division commanders will cause the carpenters of the pioneer corps to report forthwith with tools to Captain Klostermann, engineer, Fifteenth Army Corps, at the bridge at Saluda Factory, for the purpose of building pontoon boats.

II. The following are the orders for to-morrow:

Each division will destroy three miles of road. The First Division will commence at the depot of the South Carolina Railroad at 7 a. m. and destroy three miles toward Winnsborough. It will then move forward to a camp to be selected six miles from the city. The Fourth Division will commence three miles from the city and destroy three miles north. The Third Division will move to a point six miles north of the city and destroy three miles, after which it will move back to the camp, six miles from the city. It will not be necessary to twist or bend the rails, as the First Michigan Engineers will follow and do it. The ties will be piled up with the rails on them and fired.

Two regiments will be left to come up with the train of each division as guard, and the trains will move forward to the camp as soon as they cross to-morrow.

The Third Division will move at 7 o'clock and the Fourth Division at 8 a. m.

Headquarters of the corps will remain in the city to-morrow.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Columbia, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say to you that we will remain in our present camp to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 17, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: General Sherman has ordered the bridge relaid and we will move according to last night's order, the First Division moving about 10 o'clock.

Very respectfully,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

The Third Division will be ready to move about noon.

DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 17, 1865.

Brigadier-General FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: General Blair directs that after crossing the Saluda River you will park all your train about one mile and a half from the

Saluda, at a point to be indicated by Captain Steele, aide-de-camp, with the exception of fifteen ammunition wagons and ambulances, which will be taken with your division across Broad River. The artillery will accompany your column.

Very respectfully,

A. HICKENLOOPER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Inspector-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

The colors of the Thirteenth Iowa were suspended over the capitol at 11 o'clock this forenoon. National salute is now being fired by Captain Clayton, First Minnesota Battery, to commemorate this event.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GILES A. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 17, 1865.

[Lieut. Col. A. C. MCCLURG:]

COLONEL: I regret to have to inform the general commanding the corps that I have missed the road he ordered me to take, and am now on the Newberry road. I marched up the road along Saluda River to a road leading by a church, which I was informed by a negro resident of the vicinity was Dutch Church. But this proved erroneous, and the road brought me into this road ahead of General Morgan. I still thought I was right till I had marched several miles, and then concluded that the loss of time would not justify a return to the other road. I hope no inconvenience will result from the mistake.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. CARLIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FOURTEENTH CORPS,
Near Metts' House, February 17, 1865.

Lieut. Col. A. C. MCCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Say to the general commanding that on reaching this point, after much detention at the bridge and much labor on the road, Captain Remington reported to me that his trains could not get this far and park before 10 p. m. I therefore put the leading brigade in camp and am camping the trains as they come in. My troops alone or with the trains can march at any hour in the morning. I think, however, we have gained by making a little interval and letting the trains close up.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. BAIRD,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Division.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Saluda River, S. C., February 17, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow toward Alston in the following order: Second Division, Third Division, First Division. If the wagon trains of the corps shall have succeeded in crossing the river during the night, as ordered, General Geary will break camp at daybreak, cross the river with his troops, and take the advance. General Ward, with his troops, will follow the Second Division. The batteries now with the Second and Third Divisions will march with those divisions until after crossing the river. After crossing the river General Ward will put his troops and battery in position to cover the taking up of the pontoon bridge. The pontoon train, after the bridge is taken up, will pass the Third Division, and take its place in the column at the head of the train of the Second Division. After crossing the Saluda River, General Geary will march one unencumbered brigade as the advance. Three batteries of artillery will follow the advanced brigade, one battery marching with the rear guard, which will consist of one brigade of the First Division. Each division commander will dispose of his troops so as to cover his own trains. General Geary will keep himself informed as to the success of the trains in crossing the river, and he will not leave his present camp until the train has so far crossed the river that he will have the road unobstructed to the bridge.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *City Point, Va.:*

GENERAL: I send you by mail Charleston newspapers of the 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th, which give the latest news from General Sherman. They state that he crossed the South Fork of the Edisto at Binnaker's Bridge on the 9th. I have possession of the Charleston and Savannah Railroad as far as the Edisto. The enemy are on the line of the Edisto at Jacksonborough and Willstown. General Hatch's division captured 6 guns on the 15th. The road has been so thoroughly destroyed that there is no use of keeping up the intrenched camp at Pocotaligo Station. I can make much better use of the troops elsewhere, and ask authority to use my discretion in the matter. The place can at any time be reoccupied in a few hours. I have no dispatches from Bull's Bay later than the 12th. General Potter expected to land there on the 13th. I shall go up there to-morrow.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, February 17, 1865.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: The application of R. D. Arnold, mayor of Savannah, for permission for himself and two other persons to proceed to Washington City by way of New York, has been forwarded to this Department by

Major-General Foster, who states that he has given the three gentlemen permission to go to New York to await the decision of the Department. The permission they desire cannot be granted, and the Secretary of War directs that no deputations of this kind be allowed to go North from Savannah. All matters which need to be considered and decided here can be submitted in writing through the proper channels.

Your obedient servant,

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, U. S. Armies, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have had time enough to look about me, and am now enabled to state what the most pressing wants of this department are. I shall confine myself in this letter to one single point. The Union sentiment in Georgia is in danger of dying out for want of nourishment. It is my earnest desire to foster it to such an extent that the people will be induced to give free expression to it themselves. With the exception of the city of Savannah and its environs within the picket-line, we hold no more territory in that State than we did before General Sherman's march through it. I want a few more troops, say 4,000 or 5,000, 1,000 of which should be cavalry or mounted infantry. I firmly believe that they could be of more service here than in any other portion of the country. I wish to operate in Georgia in a manner partly civil and partly military before the people have time to recover from the panic and the sense of subjugation which now exists. During the progress of extensive military operations in South Carolina and North Carolina great things could be accomplished in Georgia with a very small force of mounted troops. I respectfully request that this matter may be brought to the attention of the Secretary of War, and recommended to his favorable action.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 22, 1865.

Respectfully referred to Lieutenant-General Grant with the remark that General Gillmore has been ordered, as directed, to send all white troops not required to hold the sea-ports to Cape Fear River.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General, Chief of Staff.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., February 25, 1865.

Please inform General Gillmore that he will comply with orders sent to him to send his surplus troops to Cape Fear River. We want to use our troops in putting down those in arms against us and not in what has always proven a useless attempt, to get up Union sentiment by a show of strength and diplomacy where there is no resistance. Mounted men at Savannah may be necessary, but to get them they must be mounted in the country.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, U. S. Armies, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have received a special order from the War Department relieving Brevet Brigadier-General Littlefield from duty in this department, and directing him to report to Major-General Canby for duty. General Littlefield being mustering and disbursing officer of this department, and in charge of the funds pertaining to that office, will not be able to complete his preparations for leaving in time to take the steamer Fulton, which sails to-morrow, but will be in readiness probably to go in the Arago on her next trip. I desire to make an earnest appeal for the suspension, temporarily at least, of the order relieving General Littlefield, for the reason that he understands and can conduct the business of recruiting and organizing colored troops better than any officer in this command, and better, indeed, than any one I could expect to have sent here to take his place. If Brigadier-General Birney is ordered here in compliance with General Foster's application, I request that he may not be assigned to any special duties in the order. I may desire to put him in command of the District of Florida, as General Scammon is quite ill.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, U. S. Armies, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to transmit herewith an official copy of intercepted signal dispatches of the enemy, in and around Charleston Harbor.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

Intercepted signal dispatches relative to demonstrations on James Island.

(City to Battery Bee.)

FEBRUARY 10, 1865—7 p. m.

Colonel RHETT:

Have the steamers returned from carrying troops to James Island?

PAGE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(City to Battery Bee.)

FEBRUARY 10, 1865—7.30 p. m.

Colonel RHETT:

Send Captain Le Gardeur to James Island. Send to McCormick's Landing at once and stop the steamer for him, if it is still there.

TALIAFERRO,
General.

(City to Battery Bee.)

FEBRUARY 10, 1865—12 p. m.

Colonel RHETT:

Order Young's dismounted men to report to Lieutenant Elliott, James Island, at once. A steamer will be at Mount Pleasant for them.

PAGE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(City to Battery Bee.)

FEBRUARY 11, 1865—7 a. m.

Land Le Gardeur's battery as soon as possible.

PAGE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Battery Bee to City.)

FEBRUARY 11, 1865—4.15 p. m.

Colonel R.,
Corner Vanderhorst and Thomas Streets:

General Pemberton will be at Fort Sumter at dark this p. m.

PAGE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(City to Ram, Charleston.)

FEBRUARY 11, 1865—10.15 p. m.

Fleet Officer TUCKER:

Enemy attacked Simkins to-night. Barges reported between Morris Island and Fort Johnson. Please send out your iron-clads and drive them off.

HARDEE,
General.

Dispatches relative to expedition to Bull's Bay.

(Battery Bee to City.)

FEBRUARY 12, 1865—1 p. m.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Thirteen steamers arrived in Bull's Bay at 8 o'clock this a. m.

BOYLSTON,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Battery Bee to Sumter.)

FEBRUARY 12, 1865—3.30 p. m.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Two or three more steamers have entered Bull's Bay, one in creek in front of Andersonville, and two in lower end of the bay.

BOYLSTON,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

(City to Battery Bee.)

FEBRUARY 12, 1865—4.30 p. m.

Lieutenant BOYLSTON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

Order Captain Parker's battery back to Andersonville at once.

(Battery Bee to Sumter.)

FEBRUARY 12, 1865—9.25 p. m.

Colonel GRIFFIN,
First Regiment State Troops, Royal's House, James Island:

On way to join the regiment, but see troops returning here from there. Must I go on or return to camp? Answer.

DOZIER,
Assistant Surgeon.

(Battery Bee to Sumter.)

FEBRUARY 12, 1865—9.25 p. m.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Another report just from Andersonville. Twelve vessels of different kinds are quietly anchored in the bay; two or three gone in the direction of McClellanville.

RHETT,
Colonel.

(City to Battery Bee.)

FEBRUARY 13, 1865—1.25 a. m.

Lieutenant BOYLSTON:

Young's dismounted men and 400 of Conner's brigade have been ordered to McCormick's Landing. Colonel Rhett is to send Parker's battery to T.

PAGE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Battery Bee to Sumter.)

FEBRUARY 13, 1865—9 a. m.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

All quiet on this island. Colonel Rhett is now in the Christ Church lines.

JONES,
Lieutenant.

(Battery Bee to City.)

FEBRUARY 13, 1865—6.45 p. m. (Received 8.30 a. m.)

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No further information of the movements of the enemy. Young's men and the Fire Brigade have not reported. Le Gardeur's battery is at the church. Horses have been in harness for sixty hours. Parker's battery gone forward. I have ordered two 20-pounder Parrotts from Sullivan's Island to the lines, * * * is to be in readiness to march. Have now 500 men in the lines; want 2,000.

RHETT,
Colonel.

(Battery Bee to City.)

FEBRUARY 13, [1865]—7.30 p. m.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The last report received from Bull's Bay was forwarded, stating that there are twelve vessels of different kinds in the bay. The kind is not designated. One or two have gone in the direction of McClellanville. Will forward reports as they come in.

I. JONES,
Aide-de-Camp.

Lieut. JOHN SYKES,
Calhoun Light Battery:

Appear here as a witness in the case of Private George Taylor to-morrow at 10 a. m., at Colonel Rhett's headquarters.

N. O. LOWE,
Judge-Advocate.

Captain LAMAR,
Assistant Commissary of Subsistence, Mount Pleasant:

I send you an important communication by boat to-night.

BULKLEY,
Major.

Major VARDELL,
Quartermaster, Mount Pleasant:

I send you an important communication by boat to-night.

BULKLEY,
Major.

(City to Battery Bee.)

FEBRUARY 14, 1865—1.30 a. m.

Colonel RHETT:

I have received no estimate of the number of the enemy's troops. Why has it not been sent? Why has Blake not reported? It is important to keep me advised, and must be done. Send if necessary special courier to-night to ascertain facts. Use artillery horses if you have no cavalry. Will send engineers in the morning. Stop Quirk's company engineer troops now at McCormick's Landing to do the work at the lines. They will leave for the city in the morning, unless you stop them to-night. Signal men will be sent.

TALIAFERRO,
General.

R. NORTH:

We called you since 2 o'clock this a. m. to send the above message.

RUSKILL,
Sergeant.

Sergeant METARD:

Proceed at once to Palmetto Battery and open communications with Battery Marshall.

HARRISON,
Lieutenant and Chief Signal Officer.

(Battery Bee to City.)

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No attack up to 11.20 last p. m. Conner's men have arrived, and Andersonville reported safe. No firing heard during the night. Will inform you promptly if anything occurs.

RHETT,
Colonel.

(Battery Bee to Sumter.)

FEBRUARY 14, [1865]—4.10 p. m.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

All quiet at Andersonville. Colonel Rhett wishes to know if you have ordered an engineer company to the lines.

JONES,
Lieutenant.

Captain LAMAR,
Assistant Commissary of Subsistence, Fort Sumter:

Stores will be down to-night.

PRINGLE,
Major.

(Battery Bee to Sumter.)

FEBRUARY 15, 1865—6 a. m.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I think that if the whole of Parker's battery be left at Andersonville, one gun of Le Gardeur's battery be sent to Gioham's, and another to Buck Hall, with a support of 100 men, that it would render the position secure. Have not made the arrangements, nor shall not do it unless I receive orders from General Taliaferro, as the firing on Stono renders it possible Le Gardeur's will be needed there.

RHETT,
Colonel.

FEBRUARY 15, 1865—6 p. m.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Your dispatch just received, 2.10 p. m. The information you ask for has been sent you in repeated dispatches. I will leave Mount Pleasant immediately to see the general. I should like to send two Parrott guns now on the lines to Andersonville and send on a section of Parker's battery to McClellanville.

RHETT,
Colonel.

(City to Castle Pinckney.)

FEBRUARY 15, 1865—8.30 p. m.

Captain KING:

Please send immediately to the city, to Major Echols, by small boat, all tools in good condition except wheelbarrows.

CLARKE,
Colonel.

(Battery Bee to City.)

FEBRUARY 16, 1865—1 p. m.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The following dispatch has been received from Andersonville: The number of the fleet remains the same at 12 this m. as at 11.10 last p. m. Two barges are quite busy sounding in front of Palmetto Point. One came in quite near the shore, but a party of six men fired on her. She moved off. During the time they were sounding signaling was kept up between barges and a tug, their distance about one mile from shore. Dispatch from Gioham's, just received, says that a barge has been moving about mouth of creek, also engaged in sounding. One of the steamers has just gone up to mouth of creek. Reply.

M. J. KIRK,
Captain.

Dispatches indicative of an evacuation.

(Battery Marshall to Palmetto Battery.)

FEBRUARY 16, 1865—2.20 p. m.

SIGNAL OPERATORS:

Be ready to move at a moment's notice. Save all the most valuable Government property. Orders and messages burnt.

METARD,
Sergeant.

(Battery Marshall to Palmetto Battery.)

FEBRUARY 16, 1865—2.45 p. m.

SIGNAL OPERATOR AT BATTERY P.:

Keep an extraordinary good watch on G. Destroy all papers. Keep none.

METARD,
Sergeant.

(Battery Bee to City.)

FEBRUARY 16, 1865—5.30 p. m.

Captain SEABROOK,
Ordnance Officer:

For want of wagons only part of the small-arms ammunition was sent. The remainder, about 60,000 rounds, is now on the wharf.

CRESWELL,
Lieutenant and Ordnance Officer.

(Battery Bee to City.)

FEBRUARY 16, 1865—5 p. m.

Sergeant RUSKILL:

Send stores by Rice or Carson. Send signal haversacks for carrying torches, flags, &c.

METARD,
Sergeant.

(Battery Bee to Fort Johnson.)

FEBRUARY 16, 1865—6.30 p. m.

SIGNAL OPERATORS ON JAMES ISLAND:

Operators will receive orders to retire from the commanders of their posts when General Taliaferro's division is formed. The operators will report to me in person. Place Government property and all cooking utensils in quartermaster's charge.

HARRISON,
Lieutenant and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 17, 1865.

Admiral D. D. PORTER,
Commanding North Atlantic Squadron:

General Cox will move against Fort Anderson early in the morning. Please give it a good shelling.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 7. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO, *Federal Point, N. C., February 17, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

XII. The Fourth and Fifth Divisions, Twenty-third Army Corps, will be dropped from the returns of the Twenty-third Army Corps, to date from January 20, 1865.

XIII. General Cox will advance his line early to-morrow morning and threaten Fort Anderson and the adjacent line. He will attack or not, as may seem advisable after reconnaissance. If he do not attack, he will intrench a line confronting that of the enemy and running from the river to the swamp. If possible, the line should be strong enough to be held by two brigades.

The above being accomplished, General Cox will leave two brigades to hold his line, and move with his remaining force by a cross-road to the Wilmington and Lockwood's Folly road, where he will be joined by General Ames' division of General Terry's corps, which is placed temporarily under the command of General Cox.

With this combined force General Cox will move around the swamp which covers the enemy's right, and attack him in rear or force him to abandon his position. If the enemy retreat, General Cox will attack him in flank or, if practicable, cut off his retreat.

General Ames, after landing at Smithville, will supply his troops with three days' rations in haversacks, and sixty or seventy rounds of ammunition per man, and march to-morrow p. m. about ten or twelve miles on the western Wilmington road to the point where he is to join General Cox, where he will await the arrival of General Cox and report to him for further orders. All the wagons which can be furnished by the quartermaster, "not to exceed thirty-five," will be loaded with commissary stores at Smithville, and move with General Ames to the point where he joins General Cox. There the haversacks of the men will be filled, and the emptied wagons sent back to Smithville. The loaded ones will accompany the expedition.

General Cox has full discretionary power in all contingencies not now foreseen. He will communicate frequently by signals and couriers, and in the event of success will effect a junction with the forces pursuing the enemy near the river as soon as practicable.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 17, 1865.

Maj. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding U. S. Forces, Fort Fisher, N. C.:

GENERAL: I expect General Cox to advance against Fort Anderson this afternoon and attack or invest it as far as practicable, as may seem advisable after a reconnaissance.

Please be prepared to take advantage of any success that may be gained; also have a division ready to cross the river to-night, if it becomes necessary, which I expect it will. Let the men have three days' rations in haversacks, and their intrenching tools. I will be in communication with you by signal from Reeves' Point.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 34. } HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Fort Fisher, N. C., February 17, 1865.

I. Brig. Gen. Joseph R. Hawley, U. S. Volunteers, is announced as chief of staff at these headquarters, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

* * * * * * *

By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR No. 5. } HEADQUARTERS NORTH LINE U. S. FORCES,
Federal Point, N. C., February 17, 1865.

The troops of this command will be held in readiness to move at a moment's notice, with three days' cooked rations and at least sixty rounds of ammunition upon their persons.

By command of Brig. Gen. C. J. Paine:

SOLON A. CARTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Smithville, N. C., February 17, 1865—7.30 a. m.

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of North Carolina:

Rations have arrived and are issuing. We shall be off in an hour. The road to Fort Anderson from here leaves Reeves' Point three miles to the right. Shall I move more than one brigade down to the Point?

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
February 17, 1865—2 p. m.

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of North Carolina:

I have struck the river some two miles above Reeves' Point. One brigade here; the others on the direct road from Smithville to Fort

Anderson, about a mile to my left. My present position is supposed to be about two miles or less from the fort. It was nearer to come here than to the Point, and I think will do equally well for communication. The signal officer remained at Smithville to get off a dispatch, and has not yet overtaken me. I await further orders, whilst I am trying to connect my line from road to road continuously. Have skirmished with a battalion of cavalry for the last six miles. The troops have marched nine.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
February 17, 1865—7 p. m.

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The road to Reeves' Point seems pretty good, and if forage and stores and some ammunition can be landed there we can get them easier than by sending to Smithville. Let me know as early as possible which place we must send to.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 18, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

The Richmond Dispatch of this morning says Sherman entered Columbia yesterday morning, and its fall necessitates, it presumes, the fall of Charleston, which it thinks likely is already being evacuated.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 18, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

The following is taken from to-day's Richmond Dispatch:

THE FALL OF COLUMBIA.

Columbia has fallen. Sherman marched into and took possession of the city yesterday morning. This intelligence was communicated yesterday by General Beauregard in an official dispatch. Columbia is situated on the north bank of the Congaree River, just below the confluence of the Saluda and Broad Rivers. From General Beauregard's dispatch it appears that on Thursday the enemy approached the south bank of the Congaree and threw a number of shells into the city. During the night they moved up the river, and yesterday morning forded the Saluda and Broad. While they were crossing these rivers our troops, under General Beauregard, evacuated Columbia. The enemy soon after took possession.

Through private sources we learn that two days ago, when it was decided not to attempt the defense of Columbia, a large quantity of medical stores, which it was thought impossible to remove, were destroyed. The female employés of the Treasury Department had been previously sent off to Charlotte, N. C., a hundred miles north of Columbia. We presume the Treasury lithographic establishment was also removed, though as to this we have no positive information. The fall of Columbia necessitates, we presume, the evacuation of Charleston, which we think likely is already in process of execution. It is impossible to say where Sherman will next direct his columns. The general opinion is that he will go to Charleston and estab-

lish a base, but we confess we do not see what need he has of a base. It is to be presumed he is subsisting on the country, and he has had no battle to exhaust his ammunition. Before leaving Savannah he declared his intention to march to Columbia, thence to Augusta, and thence to Charleston. This was uttered as a boast, and to hide his designs. We are disposed to believe that he will next strike at Charlotte, which is 100 miles north of Columbia, on the Charlotte and Columbia Railroad, or at Florence, S. C., the junction of the Columbia and Wilmington and the Charleston and Wilmington Railroads, some ninety miles east of Columbia. There was a report yesterday that Augusta had also been taken by the enemy. This we do not believe. We have reason to feel assured that nearly the whole of Sherman's army is together at Columbia, and that the report that Schofield was advancing on Augusta was untrue.

From the Whig:

REMOVED.

The Charleston Mercury of Saturday announces a brief suspension of that paper, with a view to its temporary removal to another point. This is rendered necessary by the progress of military events cutting it off from the mail facilities for distributing its paper to a large portion of its subscribers, while the lack of transportation renders its supply of paper precarious.

Semmes has been made rear-admiral, and will take command of the James River Squadron.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

FLAG-SHIP HARVEST MOON,
Rebellion Roads, Charleston Harbor, February 18, 1865.
(Via Fort Monroe, Va., 7 p. m. 20th. Received 7.20 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

SIR: Charleston was abandoned this morning by the rebels. I am now on my way to the city, and have the honor to be, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

JNO. A. DAHLGREN,
Rear-Admiral.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 18, 1865—4.30 p. m.*
(Received 5 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

With Charleston in our hands, which I now believe assured to us, Gillmore will be able to spare a large part of his force. Direct him the moment that takes place to garrison the seaport harbors he deems most important for us to hold, with minimum numbers, and send all surplus troops to Cape Fear River. If he should receive other instructions from Sherman he will be guided by them. He should send none but white troops out of his department.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

ON BOARD U. S. STEAMER CRESCENT,
Off Fort Fisher, N. C., February 18, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General U. S. Army:

GENERAL: I have been up to Morehead City and New Berne, and am now on my return to Savannah. Vessels loaded with supplies for

Morehead City should not draw over fourteen feet and a half of water, if they can be had. If they draw more than that it will involve the necessity of their lying outside the bar and being lightened up by smaller vessels. There is no safe anchorage outside the bar, particularly at this season of the year. We can use to advantage, up to New Berne and about Morehead City, some twelve barges; and I wish you would send that number to Morehead City. I presume they can come down through canal, and by that means avoid going out to sea. Colonel Wright informs me that he is very much in want of 100 wagons for work on the railroad. It will be well to send him that number. He has made arrangements for oxen for teams. I shall want at New Berne and Morehead City, for hauling saw logs, wood, etc., 100 wagons, with 6-mule teams complete. Please order that number to Morehead City as soon as you can. I am going on the supposition that Morehead City is to be the depot, but the wagons and teams and barges will be useful to us at most any depot we may establish. There are poor facilities at Morehead City for a depot. There is but one small storehouse, and the wharf is very contracted. Colonel Wright will enlarge the wharf as soon as he can get the two steam pile-drivers from the North. The barges asked for should be of a character to carry a large freight on as little water as possible.

I am, general, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. C. EASTON,

Bvt. Brig. Gen., Chief Quartermaster Mil. Div. of the Miss.

CONFIDENTIAL.] QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Washington City, February 18, 1865.

Colonel PERRY:

All supplies for General Sherman's army from this date will be directed on Beaufort Harbor, with orders to the vessels to discharge their cargoes and return north for further service. I have telegraphed such orders to General Van Vliet and to Colonel Biggs, New York and Philadelphia. General Rucker is advised also. Below is copy of dispatch I have sent to these three officers.

Respectfully,

M. C. MEIGS,

Quartermaster-General.

(Copies to Colonels Wise, Brown, and Card.)

General VAN VLIET:

All supplies for General Sherman's army not gone to sea should be hereafter directed on Beaufort Harbor, with orders to transports to discharge their cargoes with all speed and return north, so as to be available for further services if needed. This applies to both sail and steam transports. Vessels now in harbor should be notified of this change. Ship to Savannah and Port Royal only for local wants.

M. C. MEIGS,

Quartermaster-General, Brevet Major-General.

(Copies to Colonel Biggs and General Rucker.)

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, February 18, 1865.

Capt. H. C. HODGES,
Assistant Quartermaster, U. S. Army, Buffalo, N. Y.:

You will proceed without delay, via New York, consulting with General Van Vliet, to Beaufort Harbor and assume charge of the supplies collecting there for General Sherman's army, to carry out such instructions as you may receive from the Quartermaster-General, or the chief quartermaster of General Sherman's army, or from General Schofield, but until the arrival of General Easton, to be specially in charge of the depot, near Beaufort, for General Sherman's supplies. You will take with you some clerks and workmen to establish the depot immediately on your arrival at Beaufort Harbor.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General, Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Columbia, S. C., February 18, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: The general-in-chief desires you to direct two regiments, whose combined effective strength shall be 500 men, to report to Colonel Baylor, chief of ordnance at the Confederate arsenal, to act under his instructions until relieved. With them you will send twenty-five wagons for the purpose of hauling ammunition to the river. He also wishes you to prosecute the destruction of railroad with as much vigor as possible during to-day and to-morrow.

I am, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 42.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Columbia, S. C., February 18, 1865.

* * * * * * *

II. It having been brought to the attention of the commanding general that certain lawless and evil-disposed soldiers of this command have threatened to destroy the remainder of this city with fire, it is ordered that all commanding officers and provost-marshals use the utmost vigilance by establishing sufficient guards and patrols to prevent at all cost, even to the taking the life of any refractory soldier, a recurrence of the horrors of last night. Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair, commanding the Seventeenth Army Corps, will assign an officer to command of that part of the city northeast of Taylor street. To Bvt. Brig. Gen. W. B. Woods is assigned the command of that portion of the city southwest of Taylor street. They will appoint provost-marshals, who will be authorized to call upon the corps commander for sufficient force to prevent burning, pillaging, and all other acts subversive of good order and military discipline.

III. Capt. E. N. Carpenter, Sixth Regiment Pennsylvania Cavalry Volunteers, is hereby announced as acting aide-de-camp to the major-general commanding, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

IV. The work of to-day will be continued to-morrow. The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will employ two divisions in breaking the railroad, and will continue to furnish similar details as those of to-day for the purpose of completing the destruction of public property. Care will be taken that every part of the rolling-stock is rendered perfectly useless. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will continue the work on the same road and be careful to complete the destruction in the vicinity of the town. Before the destruction of the store buildings at the depot the chief commissary of subsistence of the department will supply the army with such stores as he may find, such as salt, wheat, &c. He will furnish what salt is necessary for the Columbia Hospital, and the surplus he will have saved for the poorer citizens who have been burned out. The bridge train will be moved up during the day and parked in rear of the Seventeenth Army Corps beyond the limits of the city.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, S. C., February 18, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that no change has occurred in my line to-day. The brigade first on provost duty in the city has been again strengthened, as I have just ordered Colonel Catterson, commanding Second Brigade, to send another regiment to Brevet Brigadier-General Woods, thus giving eight regiments from my division on guard duty in the town. I have ordered that every enlisted man found on the streets after 5 o'clock this evening (unless on duty) without the written pass of his division commander to be arrested and placed in confinement, directing Brevet Brigadier-General Woods to suffer no resistance in the least to his guards. I am confident the scenes of last night will not be repeated.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, S. C., February 18, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that at about 3 a. m. General Oliver's brigade (the Third) was, by direction of the major-general commanding the corps, sent to patrol the city, arresting all men found in the streets. The duty was performed promptly, and, so far as I could learn, efficiently. At 7 a. m. the troops of this division were disposed along the Columbia Branch South Carolina Railroad, and have effectually destroyed to-day six miles of it. My headquarters are where they were last report.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, S. C., February 18, 1865.

Major-General HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: In accordance with instructions received from department headquarters, the minimum limit of destruction of the railroad south of the city will be fifteen miles. Should this work not be accomplished to-night by the two divisions assigned to that duty, they will bivouac near the point at which they may be working when night overtakes them, and commence on the road by daylight to-morrow. As soon as fifteen miles of road have been destroyed the divisions will return to camp near this city.*

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

Col. Theodore Jones, having many side-tracks to destroy, will not be required to proceed beyond the first mile to-day. To-morrow he will finish the second mile. Also, to-morrow the Second and Third Brigades will proceed and destroy to the fifteen-mile point, and on the same day return to this point. Mr. Scupham and Captain Earnest are charged with seeing this order executed.

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. SECOND DIV., FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, S. C., February 18, 1865.

I have in charge, at the citadel where the South Carolina Military School was kept, a large quantity of infantry and artillery ammunition; parts of gun carriages; guns, large and small; cavalry equipments; tools, and a large amount of other property useful to the service, which all portions of the army needing the same are requested to call for and appropriate. The officer in charge is directed to recognize all requisitions, however informal.

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Columbia, S. C., February 18, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that no change has been made in the disposition of this command since my report of the 17th instant, and that nothing unusual has transpired during the day.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

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* Same to Brigadier-General Corse, commanding Fourth Division.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 19. } HDQRS. 4TH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, on Broad River, S. C., February 18, 1865.*

I. Brigade commanders will hold their men under arms ready to move at a moment's notice, the men to be supplied with forty rounds of ammunition full per man and two days' full rations, which must last four. One ambulance will follow each regiment, no other wagons to accompany the command, except ordnance. The First Brigade will take the advance, the Second Brigade will hold the center, and the Third Brigade the rear.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, S. C., February 18, 1865.

Major BURKHARDT,
Commanding Twenty-ninth Missouri Mounted Infantry:

MAJOR: Major-Generals Hazen and Smith have been ordered to destroy the railroad running from Columbia to Branchville for fifteen miles below the city. The general commanding directs that you proceed with your command to that point and thence to the Wateree River, destroying all bridges, trestles, water-tanks, depots, and other buildings along the railroad. On completing this task you will rejoin the command. In the execution of the order you will observe the greatest caution, as you will be some distance from any infantry supports. When engaged on the work of destruction you will establish pickets to guard against a surprise or sudden dashes of the enemy's cavalry. You will not allow any of your men to obtain liquor, and will destroy any that they may now have that you can discover.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 45. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Columbia, S. C., February 18, 1865.*

The destruction of the road will be continued to-morrow.

Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will commence at a point nine miles from the city and destroy three miles.

Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will commence at the end of the Third Division assignment and destroy two miles.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will commence at the end of the First Division assignment and destroy one mile.

Division commanders will send out such details as they think proper to do the work, leaving, however, a sufficient force to protect their present camp.

Brevet Major-General Smith will move out his working party at 7 o'clock.

The working party of the First Division will follow that of the Fourth Division.

The working party of the Third Division will follow that of the First Division.

The details will return to camp as soon as the work is finished.

In the destruction the rails will be bent and twisted.

Corps headquarters will remain in the city to-morrow.

The brigade from the First Division now doing provost duty will remain in the city to-morrow.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 39. } *In the Field, S. C., February 18, 1865.*

I. This command will move forward to-morrow at 8 a. m. in the following order to destroy railroad:

First, Second Brigade, excepting one regiment to guard camp; second, First Brigade; third, artillery trains and ambulances will remain in present camp.

The command will return to camp when the work assigned is completed.

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By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
No. 6. } *In the Field, February 18, 1865.*

The attention of all officers is called to Special Field Orders from headquarters of the army, prohibiting the transportation of tents, except one for brigade headquarters and upward. An immediate and rigid enforcement of this order is expected. All surplus tents and every pound of baggage not authorized by regulations and existing orders, will at once be burned or abandoned. A portion of the army has recently marched ten days through a country yielding but little forage, and following this march it has been compelled to remain at one point nearly two days. The result has been that portions of the command have been utterly destitute of forage and the animals have suffered severely. We have got a long and arduous march to make with almost an absolute certainty of being delayed several days at one point on our line, and that, too, in a section which will probably yield but small supplies for either man or animals. Under these circumstances the importance of collecting supplies as rapidly as possible, and of making an economical use of them, must be apparent to all. The stores now on hand will be placed in as few wagons as possible, and all wagons obtained either by this method or by the abandonment of tents and private baggage, will at once be loaded with such subsistence stores and forage as can be obtained in the country. At least six days' forage should, if possible, be kept constantly on hand. All disabled and worthless mules and horses will at once be shot. No person, white or black, not connected with the army will be permitted to accompany either column at the slightest risk of embarrassment to our future operations.

By command of Maj. Gen. H. W. Slocum:

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Freshly's Ferry, Wateree Creek, February 18, 1865—Dark.

Captain DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Please inform the general that I am completely disappointed and thoroughly disgusted. The bridge is not yet done, and the commander of the pontoon train (Major Downey) has proved himself a complete failure. The boats, as I before informed you, have run out before reaching the opposite shore, and now (the eleventh hour) this officer is in doubt whether or not the remaining distance can be trestled. Please ask the general to have about ten boats forwarded from the rear as soon as possible. Nothing further from the enemy.

Very respectfully,

JEF. C. DAVIS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 18, 1865.

I sent a dispatch this afternoon informing the general commanding of the movements of the enemy above us on the river. I see by the dispatch just received that it has not been received. Cheatham is crossing with a force estimated at 13,000 men. Kilpatrick is at Alston, and reports the enemy crossing above Alston.

JEF. C. DAVIS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Five Miles South of Freshly's, S. C., February 18, 1865.

Major-General DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your communication, and to say that he will send a division early to-morrow morning to the position now occupied by General Carlin. He directs that you commence destroying the railroad toward Alston as soon as you cross the river, and if possible destroy the railroad bridge below Alston. The Twentieth Corps will cross the river as soon as your corps is over.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 12.

HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Freshly's Mills, S. C., February 18, 1865.

The movements of the corps to-day will be as follows:

General Baird will cross the Broad River, and, moving up the river to a point two miles this side of Alston, will destroy the railroad to that point (together with the railroad bridge at that place if not already destroyed), and will encamp to-night at Larkin's Mill, near Pearson's Island.

General Carlin, crossing in rear of General Baird, will destroy three miles of the railroad this side of where General Baird destroys it. He will encamp at the point where the left-hand road from Thompson's Post-Office to Monticello intersects with the road from Alston.

General Morgan will superintend the crossing of the trains of the corps in the rear of General Carlin, and will destroy the railroad from the pontoon bridge to where it is destroyed by General Carlin. He will encamp with the trains to-night at Thompson's Post-Office.

Corps headquarters, with reserve artillery and ammunition train, will move in rear of General Carlin.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis.

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, S. C., February 18, 1865.

Major-General WILLIAMS,
Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that General Davis has effected a crossing over the Broad River at Freshly's, just below the mouth of Wateree Creek. He will commence crossing his trains to-day about 12 m. General Slocum would like you to get as near that point to-day as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Oakville, S. C., February 18, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow across Broad River at the mouth of Wateree Creek in the following order: Third Division, First Division, Second Division. The Third Division will start at 6.30 a. m., the others following. General Ward will march one brigade in advance. General Geary will cover the rear of the column with one brigade (or more should there be any demonstration by the enemy). The Third and First Divisions and all trains will cross Broad River, and the troops be massed and trains parked at least two miles beyond. The Second Division will halt and form a line, faced to the rear, at least one mile this side of the bridge, and cover the crossing. As soon as all troops and trains have crossed General Geary will follow, and he will deploy two regiments on the north side of the river to cover the taking up of the bridge. One battery of artillery will march with the rear guard. This battery upon crossing the river will be put in position with General Geary's regiments to cover the rear, and will come forward with them. The balance of the artillery will march in rear of the advanced brigade. The pontoon train will precede the trains of the Third Division, starting at 7 a. m.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
February 18, 1865.

General J. W. GEARY,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding the corps directs me to inform you that the order of march for to-morrow is suspended, and that you will not break camp until further orders; also, that when you do move it will be in the order of march already published.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
February 18, 1865—4 p. m.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Commanding, &c.:

I have met a quartermaster from Smithville, who says the train had not started two hours ago. From this I infer that Ames could not have moved his column at noon. I am satisfied the road my guide spoke of is the best, and have therefore sent this guide with a staff officer to bring Ames to the point where we turn the pond by the nearest and best route. If he is not far from Smithville, they will bring him on the route I mentioned to you, but if he has gone on toward Russell's, they will bring him by the best cross-road.

Very respectfully,

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Moore's Creek, February 18, 1865—5.45 p. m.

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have reached the point where the road turns Orton Pond. The creek makes into the pond, and the crossing is a very difficult one. We ran into a cavalry picket a mile before reaching here, and found a considerable cavalry detachment holding the crossing. They were inclined to be obstinate, and made a brisk skirmishing resistance, our men being forced to cross a narrow causeway under their fire. They are slowly retiring by the road I purpose taking, which shows that we could gain nothing by taking the longer route. I have sent for Ames to meet me here by the shortest and most practicable route, sending him my guide. We have one more difficult creek to cross a short distance ahead. It is doubtful if we get over it before dark. I have one officer and several men wounded in the crossing. I shall send them back to Smithville in the wagons when they come up. I will send you another dispatch when I start in the morning. Just as I write the above I learn that Ames is within half a mile of here. They came by some good fortune the road my guide told the commanding general they should take, *i. e.*, that we came on yesterday, till they got nearly five miles from Smithville, and my staff officer and guide met them just before they reached the proper place to turn off. If the wagons get

up to-night we shall get an early start in the morning. My dispatch will tell you the hour we start in the morning, and the best estimate I can make of our probable time of reaching the foot of the pond.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
February 18, 1865—10.15 p. m.

Major-General COX:

Your dispatches of 4 and 5.30 [5.45] p. m. are received. All right. In your morning dispatch please send me a rough sketch showing your position and the route you have to travel as nearly as you can. If you find it impracticable to get through on account of the enemy's force, and deem it prudent to do so, hold on until you report and hear from me again before coming back. General Terry reports an apparent diminution of the force in his front to-day. This indicates a probable increase in that which will meet you, yet I think you will be able to overcome it if you have room to operate in.

Respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

FEBRUARY 18, 1865.

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

A deserter just arrived informs me that last night a Wilmington paper contained news that Sherman was within three miles of Columbia, and that he was told last night he had taken the city.

TERRY,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 35. } HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Fort Fisher, N. C., February 18, 1865.

* * * * * * *

VII. Company L, First Connecticut Artillery, is relieved from duty with this command, in pursuance of instructions from headquarters Armies of the United States, and will proceed to City Point, Va., without delay, reporting to the headquarters of the regiment upon arrival at that point. The quartermaster is to furnish transportation.

By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 18, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff Armies of the United States, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: The city of Charleston and its defenses came into our possession this morning, with over 200 pieces of good artillery and a

supply of fine ammunition. The enemy commenced evacuating all the works last night, and Mayor Macbeth surrendered the city to the troops of General Schimmelfennig at 9 o'clock this morning, at which time it was occupied by our forces. Our advance on the Edisto and from Bull's Bay hastened the retreat. The cotton warehouses, arsenal, quartermasters' stores, railroad bridges, and two iron-clads were burned by the enemy. Some vessels in the ship-yard were also burned. Nearly all the inhabitants remaining in the city belong to the poorer classes.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. COAST DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Combahee, S. C., February 18, 1865.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: The enemy last night burned the railroad bridge over the Edisto. Are apparently not in force on its bank. A contraband from vicinity of Charleston reports the enemy evacuating. He reports Sumter and Moultrie as already abandoned. I will do my best to cross the Edisto to morrow. Will be obliged to transport boats, unless a gun-boat can be got to go up the Edisto and cross us.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. A. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 18, 1865.

I. The city of Charleston and its dependencies will form part of the Northern District of this department, under the command of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig, who will take all necessary measures for its safety and security. The headquarters will, until further orders, be located in the city.

II. Brig. Gen. E. E. Potter, with the troops and transports operating from Bull's Bay, will report to Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, February 19, 1865.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I congratulate you on the news from South Carolina. I have directed your order in respect to deserters to be printed in large handbills and posted in every camp and distributed on the boats.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 19, 1865—5.15 p. m.*
(Received 6 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

If there are any canvas pontoons in Washington or New York please send General Schofield enough for about 800 feet of bridging. The pontoons he has are too heavy for the roads at this season.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 19, 1865.*

Doctor GOODWYN,
Mayor of Columbia, S. C.:

DEAR SIR: I have directed the salt and the other provisions at the depot to be hauled to the new capitol and to be put under your charge. I will also send you some cattle to-morrow at 6.30 o'clock and will leave them in the campus of the college hospital, where you must have them guarded. You will do well to advise the destitute citizens to leave Columbia for the country as far as possible. You had better organize foraging parties, under the direction of reliable citizens, that will go into the country and take provisions in your name, giving a receipt. Some such forced loans will be necessary to relieve the present necessities by the fire. I will furnish you 500 head of cattle, and expect you to provide for destitute citizens, and particularly the negroes that are now here and helpless.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS No. 43.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Columbia, S. C., February 19, 1865.

* * * * * * *

II. Major Reynolds, Fourteenth New York Heavy Artillery, is hereby assigned to the command of all escaped Union officers and soldiers, and will also take charge of all refugees and their conveyances accompanying the army. These officers and soldiers will move with the refugee train as an escort, and from them will be organized a foraging party. One officer will be selected to act as quartermaster and commissary. The train will be assigned its position in the column from day to day. Major Reynolds will report to these headquarters for instructions.

III. The movement for to-morrow will commence at 7 a. m. The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will march via Davis' house and cross-roads near Roberts' to Muddy Springs. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will march along the railroad, making a distance of about fifteen miles from Columbia, completing the destruction of the railroad to that point, if not already done. Headquarters will follow the leading division of the Fifteenth Army Corps, and will be near Muddy Springs to-morrow night. The bridge train will follow the second division in order of march of the Seventeenth Army Corps. The refugee train will follow the rear division of the Seventeenth Army

Corps along the line of the Winnsborough road. A brigade from each corps will constitute the rear guard, and the brigade commander will be held responsible that every soldier and army attaché is out of town when he begins his march. The brigades that are now guarding the town are preferred for this duty.

* * * * * * *

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, S. C., February 19, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that no change has occurred in my command to-day. I am still encamped near Columbia, with one brigade in the city.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, S. C., February 19, 1865.

Major-General HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to say that as soon as you have destroyed the proportion of railroad allotted to you, you will return to your present camp near this city.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, S. C., February 19, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that this division with the Fourth to-day completed the destruction of the fifteen miles of the Columbia Branch of the South Carolina Railroad, and has returned to its camp at this point. My headquarters remain as at last report.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Columbia, S. C., February 19, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command remains in the same position as mentioned in last report. An explosion took place

near the State arsenal this p. m., by which 1 commissioned officer and 3 enlisted men were killed, 1 enlisted man mortally, 12 seriously, and 7 slightly wounded. Inclosed I forward copy of Col. J. B. McCown's report relative to the affair.*

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, S. C., February 19, 1865.

Brevet Major-General CORSE,
Commanding Fourth Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The point of concentration for the corps to-morrow night is Muddy Springs. The general commanding instructs me to direct you to move your command to that point on such roads as you may select, passing through or near Tompkins' [Hopkins'] house or plantation. Your train will be moved with the main column.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient sorvant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Columbia, S. C., February 19, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that the refugee train, instead of following the Seventeenth Army Corps, as directed in the order of march for to-morrow, will follow in advance of the rear guard of the Fifteenth Army Corps. Col. James Wilson, provost-marshal-general, will take charge of it until it is fully organized.

Very respectfully, your obedient,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, commanding Fifteenth Army Corps.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 46. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, S. C., February 19, 1865.

* * * * * * *

II. The following are the orders for to-morrow :

Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will have the advance and will move forward at 8 a. m. along the railroad.

Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will be prepared to move at 9 a. m., and will follow the Fourth Division.

Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will be prepared to move at 10 a. m., and will follow the First Division.

The bridge train will follow the train of the First Division.

The First Regiment Michigan Engineers will follow the Third Division train.

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* Not found as an inclosure.

The refugee train will follow the First Regiment Michigan Engineers.

The Second Brigade, First Division, now doing provost duty in the city, will act as rear guard and will be prepared to move at 7 o'clock, and Col. M. Montgomery, commanding, will see that all soldiers and persons connected with the army are out of his district before he leaves the city. He will act in this matter in concert with General Woods, commanding the northwestern district.

The train of the headquarters Military Division of the Mississippi, and of these headquarters will move with Colonel Montgomery's brigade.

The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will be prepared to move at 7 o'clock, and will await orders.

* * * * * * *

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, S. C., February 19, 1865.

In the name of the citizens of the city of Columbia, I, T. J. Goodwyn, mayor of the city, do pledge my honor that a certain lot of arms and accouterments, to-wit, 100 stand of arms, with the ammunition thereto belonging, to be turned over to me by the U. S. military authorities, shall be used in preserving the peace in the city, and shall never be employed in any way against the United States Government or to advance the interests of the so-called Southern Confederacy.

T. J. GOODWYN,
Mayor of the City of Columbia, S. C.

Attest:

C. CADLE, Jr.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING,
In the Field, Freshly's Mill, February 19, 1865—9 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

Davis has crossed the Broad River and Williams will cross to-morrow. We have been much delayed by lack of pontoon boats, not having sufficient to bridge both rivers. Kilpatrick will cross to-night at this point. To-morrow night the Fourteenth Corps will be at Ebenezer Meeting House, on Little River; the Twentieth will be at about two miles southeast of that point, at the crossing one mile southeast of Kincaid's. On Tuesday morning the corps will, unless otherwise ordered by you, advance to Winnsborough. You will see from the map that the roads taken by the two corps are not over two miles apart. My headquarters will be with the Twentieth. We have destroyed eight miles railroad to-day.

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
No. 7. } *In the Field, February 19, 1865.*

Measures must at once be taken to prevent the destruction of forage in advance of the army. No foraging will be allowed in advance of

the troops, and any person found in front of the advance guard will be arrested and severely punished. No property will be burned except by the rear guard in obedience to the order of a corps or division commander.

By command of Maj. Gen. H. W. Slocum:

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 13. } HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Mrs. Sanders' House, February 19, 1865.*

The corps will move to-morrow as follows:

General Baird, marching at 6.30 a. m. and taking the road by A. Johnston's, will encamp near Ebenezer Meeting House. If in advance of General Carlin, he will cross the Little River and encamp at the forks of the road beyond.

General Carlin will march at 6.30 a. m. by the way of A. Johnston's to the same point. If in advance of General Baird, he will cross Little River and encamp at the forks of the road beyond.

General Morgan will march at 6.30 a. m. with the trains by the left-hand road, via Gibson's Meeting House and McMeekins' Post-Office, and will encamp near Ebenezer Meeting House.

Corps headquarters, with reserve artillery and ammunition train, will move in the rear of General Carlin.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Freshly's Ferry, S. C., February 19, 1865.

The order of march for to-morrow will be: First Division, Second Division, Third Division. The First Division will start at daylight, or immediately in the rear of the Fourteenth Corps, cross the river with the troops, and march to the vicinity of Thompson's Post-Office, halting there for the trains to close up. General Jackson will picket the roads and dispose of his troops at that point to cover the park of the trains. The Second Division will follow the trains of the First Division. Two brigades of the Third Division, with all of the division trains, will follow the Second Division. Immediately upon the withdrawal of the troops of the Second Division General Ward will put a brigade in position on this side of the river, at least a mile from the bridge. This brigade will cover all roads and approaches to the bridge, and remain in position until all the trains have crossed, when it will be withdrawn and cross the river. General Ward will then put two regiments from his rear brigade and a battery of artillery in position on the north side of the river, to cover the taking up of the bridge. The pontoon train, after the bridge is taken up, will be pushed to the head of the column as rapidly as possible, division commanders giving it, whenever the trains are parked, opportunities to get as far ahead as possible. Major Reynolds, chief of artillery, will order one battery to report to General Ward, to march with the rear. The balance of the artillery will march in rear of the troops of the First Division.

From Thompson's Post-Office the column will march on the most direct road to the junction of the roads near Kincaid's house, on the north side of Little River.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Broad River, February 19, 1865.

Brigadier-General JACKSON,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: It has been ascertained that there is no practicable road leading direct from Thompson's Post-Office to Kincaid's. It is therefore necessary for us to move down on the Columbia road to cross Little River near its mouth. The general commanding therefore desires that after crossing the pontoon bridge, instead of taking the road to the left leading to Thompson's Post-Office, you take the one leading to the right, which strikes the Columbia road at McConnell's farm, about four miles east of Thompson's Post-Office.

If you will send to these headquarters before leaving camp in the morning, we will send you one of our scouts who has been over the road and can guide you. The general wishes you to halt and have the wagons parked on the McConnell farm, as near the Columbia road as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
February 19, 1865.

Lieutenant-Colonel PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Twentieth Army Corps:

COLONEL: My division is massed in rear of General Carlin. He has no orders to move, and I am waiting on him.

Very respectfully,

W. T. WARD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY COMMAND,
Alston Bridge, S. C., February 19, 1865.

[General W. T. SHERMAN:]

GENERAL: My people have just burned Pomaria Station. Cheatham's corps was receiving rations at 12 m. to-day at Frog Level. He has about 5,000 men and one brigade of cavalry. Other troops are following him. One hundred and fifty thousand rations were at Abbeville for a large force reported on the march from Washington, in Georgia, forty-five miles from Abbeville. My scouts report infantry and some cavalry at or passing through Newberry. I will closely watch all movements of the enemy and report everything of importance. Cheatham has twenty pieces of artillery. He is not moving to-day,

but receiving rations and resting. I cannot learn that he has a pontoon train. (Frog Level is Prosperity Station on the map.) The railroad has several bridges from that point to the river. We have burned them all. One of my brigades is crossing the river, and will push well up the country and give timely notice of any danger. My entire command will cross in the morning, when I will push well up and on the left flank. Cheatham will cross at Ashford's Ferry, I think; at least his scouting parties have made inquiries about that point. My people were on Heller's Creek to-day, and the country is clear. I reached Alston Bridge yesterday at 12 m., but could not save the bridge. We are capturing some prisoners and doing very well. I would give a year's pay to cross the river to-night at this point.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, February 19, 1865—12 noon.

Major-General GILLMORE,
Hilton Head, S. C.:

GENERAL: General Grant directs that the moment Charleston falls into our hands you will garrison with minimum force such sea-port places as you may deem most important for us to hold, and send all surplus white troops to Cape Fear River. If, however, you should in the meantime receive other instructions from General Sherman you will be guided by them. Richmond papers of yesterday contain an account of Sherman's capture of Columbia.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 29. } HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, *Charleston, S. C., February 19, 1865.*

I. Lieut. Col. A. G. Bennett, Twenty-first U. S. Colored Troops, is hereby placed in command of the city of Charleston and announced as provost-marshal of this district. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig:

ED. W. SCHAUFFLER,
First Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. NORTHERN DIST., DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 19, 1865.

The Third Rhode Island Artillery will relieve at once all the detachments of this command in the different forts and batteries. These detachments will report to these headquarters without delay in order to be sent to their regiments.

By order of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig:

J. W. DICKINSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 19, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. GROVER,
Commanding at Savannah:

Fire a national salute at noon to-day in honor of the capture of Charleston.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Same to commanding officer Hilton Head District.)

CITY POINT, VA., *February 19, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

Your two letters of the 15th instant are just received. Sherman's instructions were probably given before he knew what force we would have to operate with in North Carolina. At all events, in pursuing the course directed by me you accomplish what Sherman directs. The object is to open communication between the sea-coast and Goldsborough by rail, so as to meet Sherman with supplies for his army and to put at his disposal an available force. If you succeed in the capture of Wilmington you will probably secure the road almost complete. From New Berne it would have to be rebuilt entire. At the former place you would be better supplied with storage. It also gives you the advantage of a road bearing southwest, which, after all, might prove the one necessary to open first. It will be well to have Palmer push on, in pursuance of Sherman's instructions, and at the same time direct your attention to Wilmington. You will either capture the place or hold a considerable force of the enemy from Sherman's front. The last news from Sherman direct was on the 7th instant. I directed a copy of that dispatch sent to you. He was then encountering bad roads and much water and was not certain but these causes would force him to turn upon Charleston. In that case he would want his supplies sent to Bull's Bay. Richmond papers of yesterday, however, announce his capture of Columbia on the morning of the 17th. As he was then across the Congaree it is not likely that he will turn back. This success will probably force the evacuation of Charleston. In that case Gillmore will have a disposable force of 10,000 or 12,000 men, which I have directed him to send to you. Should you find an advance on Wilmington impracticable, keep up such a threatening attitude that the enemy will be compelled to retain there all the force he now has, and push on the column from New Berne. I will send you a canvas pontoon train immediately, if it can be raised.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Fort Anderson, February 19, 1865.
(Via Fort Monroe, 9 a. m., 23d. Received 10.55 a. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *City Point, Va.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the success of our operations against Fort Anderson and the adjacent works on both sides of Cape Fear River. Yesterday, while the gun-boats maintained a heavy fire upon Fort Anderson, I pressed the enemy on both sides of the river and sent a force under General Cox about sixteen miles around a swamp

to turn the enemy's right. This force made its way along a narrow defile between two swamps and completely turned the enemy's position. As soon as the movement became known to the enemy he abandoned his works and retreated toward Wilmington. We captured ten guns uninjured and a considerable amount of ammunition. We have about fifty prisoners. The loss in killed or wounded is small on either side. The troops are pursuing the enemy and the gun-boats are moving up the river. Fort Anderson and its collateral works are very strong and rendered almost inaccessible by swamps. A small force could have held them until their supplies were exhausted. My information is that the rebels have a line of defense behind Town Creek, where they propose to make a stand. If so, it can probably be only a short one. Only four brigades of my troops have arrived from Washington, and no transportation, but I will keep at work with what I have.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Fort Anderson, N. C., February 19, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *City Point, Va.:*

GENERAL: I now begin to feel the need of cavalry, and will probably feel it much more soon. I therefore respectfully request that a regiment at least be sent me as soon as practicable.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
February 19, 1865.
(Via Fort Monroe, 9 a. m., 23d. Received 10.55 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Day before yesterday Cox's division moved to Smithville and then toward Fort Anderson. Yesterday it closed up on Fort Anderson and intrenched a line, under navy fire, close to the enemy's, to be held by two brigades. With the balance of his command and Ames' division, which had been sent to Smithville, Cox then was started on the flank movement for the rear of Fort Anderson, making about ten miles by dark. The enemy evacuated Fort Anderson during the night and the lines in front of Terry this morning. They will at once be followed toward Wilmington.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Aide-de-Camp, and Brevet Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 8. } ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Federal Point, N. C., February 19, 1865.

I. The Third Tennessee Infantry is hereby dropped from the returns of the Twenty-third Army Corps, to date from January 20, 1865.

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By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 9. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 23D ARMY CORPS,
Washington, D. C., February 19, 1865.

The command will move to Alexandria by boat to-morrow, the 20th instant, as follows: Two regiments of the Third Brigade will be at Giesborough Wharf and embark at 8.30 a. m., and the remaining two regiments of the Third Brigade at 9.30 a. m. The horses of the brigade will go with the brigade. The entire baggage of the brigade will be placed on barges at Giesborough Wharf at 8 a. m. Two regiments of the First Brigade will embark at Giesborough Wharf at 12 m. and two at 1 p. m. The horses will accompany the brigade. The baggage of the brigade will be placed on barges at Giesborough Wharf at 12 m. On arrival at Alexandria brigade commanders will report to Captain Lee, assistant quartermaster, for assignment to transports. Five days' rations in bulk have been placed on board the transports and five days' cooked rations will be drawn at Alexandria in addition. The horses will be placed on boats designated for that purpose, and each brigade commander will detail one regimental quartermaster to go in charge of the horses of his brigade. Forage will be supplied by Captain Lee at Alexandria. The commanding officers on board the transports will see that the rules of the ships are obeyed by the men under their command, and that the requirements of the Revised Army Regulations in regard to the conduct of troops on transports are observed is essential to good order on board the transports and the safety of the command from fire or other dangers. On the arrival at the destination of the command each commanding officer will report to his next proper superior officer, if there. If not there, to the next that is there.

By command of Brig. Gen. T. H. Ruger:

J. E. CRAVENS,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISON, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
February 19, 1865—6.30 a. m.

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

The train has not yet got up, and General Ames has report from an orderly that the train got scattered within three miles of Smithville and went back to reform and start again. I have sent back my quartermaster with peremptory orders to bring the train up at the earliest possible moment. As we are at the cross-roads, where our intention as to route is not entirely apparent to the enemy, I have thought it advisable to wait till we hear more definitely from the train, as it cannot get back to Smithville to-day if it follows us farther; and I understand that it will have to be relied on to get food for Moore's and Henderson's men, they also being out to-night. I should push one division right on, but think it better to make a demonstration with a regiment on the Lockwood's Folly road, and give their cavalry there the idea that we mean to move in that direction, and then, when we get or definitely hear from the train, push rapidly with our whole force upon the rear of Anderson. We have about eight miles to go. I shall expect to hear from my messengers to the train in two hours and a half. If you have any other way of feeding Moore and Henderson than by this train please let me know by courier, as I shall then feel at liberty to move without awaiting it.

A rough sketch is on the other side.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
February 19, 1865—10.30 a. m.

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The train has just come within reach. I move out with Ames' division, leaving the two brigades of my own to draw rations and follow. Have no answer as yet to my dispatch of 6.30 this morning.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
February 19, 1865—10.45 a. m.

Major-General COX,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: The enemy has evacuated Fort Anderson and retired from Terry's front. The general is aboard the admiral's flag-ship and I cannot send him your message. Moore and Henderson were supplied with rations last night from boats, so that they will not have to rely on that train to feed them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
February 19, 1865—8.30 p. m.

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

My advance brigade occupies the commanding ground on this side of Town Creek. The other brigades are echeloned in rear. The enemy made but slight resistance until they reached the creek. They have a line of infantry trench on the upper bank, and are believed to have destroyed the bridge. They fired a few cannon shot at Henderson as he advanced. The creek is very crooked and deep. The water is said to be thirty or forty feet deep, being deeper than the river. I learned of a flat-boat, capable of carrying near 100 men, a short distance below our camp, and ordered it secured and carefully protected. No detour can be made to the left, so as to cross the creek by fording, short of fifteen miles above. The next bridge was ten miles above, and that is probably destroyed. If the enemy resist stubbornly and in force on the road, I think our only feasible way of crossing will be by the flat under cover of the fire of the gun-boats. I cannot learn that any force but Hagood's brigade is in front of us. The colored people say they commenced their retreat early in the night, the rear guard leaving Fort Anderson about daybreak. They undoubtedly began the movement immediately after learning that their cavalry were driven from the head of Orton Pond by our advancing column. Please inform me early as to the commanding general's desires in regard to pushing my movement on this side of the river.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Fort Anderson, February 19, 1865.

[General COX:]

GENERAL: I desire you to move against the enemy toward Wilmington early to-morrow with your entire force, except one regiment of Colonel Moore's brigade, which is temporarily stationed at Fort Anderson. If you find the enemy in position behind Town Creek or elsewhere this side of Wilmington endeavor to turn his right and force him back. You may even cut him off from crossing the river at Wilmington. From the best information I can get his force on the west side of the river is only about 2,000 men, and he cannot well send over more while General Terry is pressing him on the other side. If the enemy fall back to Wilmington try to get possession of all the approaches to the town from the west side of the river and prepare to hold them with the smallest force practicable, so that a portion of your troops may be transferred to the east side of the river. I will move up the river in the Spaulding, so as to keep in communication with the troops on both sides of the river. Inform me frequently by signal or otherwise of your progress.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Fort Anderson, February 19, 1865—11.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

Your note of 8.30 p. m. just received. The commanding general directs that if you have to make a circuit of ten or fifteen miles, as you suppose, in order to turn the enemy's right, you need not make the attempt. See what can be done with the flat-boat, as you suggest. The general will be in communication with you in the morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—The general desires you to ascertain whether pontoons can be landed near you in the river and drawn up so as to cross the creek near its mouth.

J. A. C.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
February 19, 1865.

Colonel HENDERSON,
Commanding Third Brigade:

You may advance toward Town Creek cautiously, collecting such information as you can and approaching as near the enemy as you find practicable before dark. I will bring up the other brigades as soon as they reach here. Report anything of importance you may learn before I reach you.

Very respectfully,

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
February 19, 1865.

Colonel MOORE,
Commanding Brigade, &c.:

I have ordered Colonel Henderson to push his reconnaissance farther toward Town Creek. Please support him if he needs it, and I will be up shortly with the other brigades.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Fort Anderson, N. C., February 19, 1865.

Maj. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Comdg. Detachments Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have ordered General Ames to cross the river at Fort Anderson and report to you this evening. In the morning I want you to move forward against the enemy, east of the river, while General Cox will move up the west bank. If you find the enemy in a fortified position this side of Wilmington, try to turn his left and force him back upon Wilmington, or you may endeavor to cut him off from that place if your force appears sufficient. If the enemy fall back to the defenses of Wilmington invest the place as far as practicable. In any other event act as may seem for the best. Communicate with me frequently, by signal or otherwise. I will move up the river in the Spaulding, so as to keep in communication with the troops on both sides.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

FEDERAL POINT, N. C., *February 19, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

My advance is about eight miles from Wilmington, close to the enemy's outposts. Unless I receive contrary orders from you I shall camp for the night at about nine miles from the city and await re-enforcements. Can they reach me before daylight?

A. H. TERRY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Fort Anderson, N. C., February 19, 1865.

Maj. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Comdg. Detachments Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Your dispatch by signal is received. General Ames' division will re-enforce you to-night and act under your orders in the morning. He is going to land near where your troops now are. The commanding general directs me to say that he will make no reply to the communication by flag of truce.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
No. 37. } *Sugar Loaf, N. C., February 19, 1865.*

I. The special order directing Company L, First Connecticut Artillery, to proceed to Fort Monroe, Va., is countermanded. Capt. William G. Pride, First Connecticut Artillery, will withdraw from the north line of works the company of his detachment now stationed there, leaving only a guard for the guns, and will assume the command of Captain Everett's company of the Second Pennsylvania Volunteers, now encamped at the fort. With these four heavy artillery companies, viz, Companies B, L, and G, First Connecticut Artillery, Company [A], Second Pennsylvania Artillery, Captain Pride will garrison Fort Fisher and take every precaution for its defense during the present movement to the front. Colonel Coan, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, will have the command of the infantry detachment left at the rear. As soon as transportation can be procured from the quartermaster's department the guns on the northern line will be moved to the fort.

* * * * * * *

By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Fort Anderson, N. C., February 19, 1865—3.45 p. m.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. AMES,
Commanding Second Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires you to march at once to the wharf at this place, where you will embark your command on the steamers now here, cross the river, and report for further orders to Major-General Terry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *Februarg 19, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. I. N. PALMER,
Commanding U. S. Forces, New Berne, N. C.:

You will immediately relieve the two companies (commanded by Major Laughlin) belonging to regiments serving in the Department of Virginia, and order them to report at once to Brigadier-General Gordon, at Norfolk, Va.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MOREHEAD CITY, *February 19, 1865.*

Brigadier-General PALMER,
New Berne:

Have arrived on Creole with some 800 men of Provisional Division, and await orders.

S. P. CARTER,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

FEBRUARY 19, 1865.

Brig. Gen. S. P. CARTER,
Morehead City:

I am informed that there is now an extra train at Morehead which can bring up a portion, if not all, of your command. Please let them come at once. If all cannot come now, leave the remainder under a judicious officer until to-morrow. Perhaps we will be able to send for all to-day.

Very respectfully,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

Operator inform Captain Wheeler of this.

I. N. P.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, February 19, 1865.

Governor CURTIN,
Harrisburg, Pa.:

Last night this Department received the gratifying intelligence of the occupation of Columbia, the capital of South Carolina, by General Sherman, and the probable evacuation of Charleston by the enemy. Hasten on recruiting to fill up the Army, and the rebellion must receive its final blow in this spring campaign.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

(Same to Governor Brough, Columbus, Ohio; Governor Morton, Indianapolis, Ind; Governor Lewis, Madison, Wis.; Governor Cony, Augusta, Me.; Governor Smith, Saint Albans, Vt.; Governor Andrew, Boston, Mass.; Governor Gilmore, Concord, N. H.; Governor Fenton, Albany, N. Y.; Governor Fletcher, Saint Louis, Mo.; Governor Carney, Leavenworth, Kans., and Governor Bramlette, Frankfort, Ky.)

CITY POINT, VA., *February 20, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

The following paragraphs are extracted from the Richmond papers of to-day:

We now know that Charleston was evacuated on Tuesday last, and that on Friday the enemy took possession of Columbia. It is reported that our forces under General Beauregard are moving in the direction of Charlotte. Official intelligence was received at the War Office last night that Sherman was on yesterday morning advancing toward and was near Winnsborough, a point on the railroad leading to Charlotte, and thirty miles north of Columbia.

Charlotte is thronged with refugees from Columbia, who report that some of Wheeler's cavalry plundered the city before the evacuation.

Up to Tuesday last it was uncertain whether Columbia would come within the immediate range of Sherman's proposed route, and consequently the public mind was not prepared for such an early solution of the question. The Government had, however, just two weeks ago, taken the precaution to remove its specie deposited there, amounting to several millions of dollars, and within the past few days all the dies and plates belonging to the Treasury Department, together with the supplies of treasury notes on hand, were safely conveyed away.

The enemy being in possession of Branchville, Orangeburg, and Kingsville, precluded movements on the roads leading to Charleston, and an unfortunate accident upon the Charlotte road, cutting off nearly all the rolling-stock of the road from

Columbia, prevented the authorities from making use of that avenue to save other valuable materials in the city. A large quantity of medical stores belonging to the Government were there, one-half of which were saved, and the rest, for want of time and transportation, destroyed. The presses and fixtures for printing treasury notes in the establishments of Evans & Cogswell and Keatinge & Ball were necessarily abandoned, together with the other extensive machinery of those well-known firms. The first-named establishment alone had 102 printing presses, and was unquestionably the largest and best equipped publishing house in the South.

The enemy's forces operating west of Columbia reached the banks of the Congaree opposite the city on Thursday evening, and threw in a number of shells, to which our batteries responded. A portion of this column moved up the river during the night and crossed the Saluda and Broad Rivers, the main tributaries of the Congaree, which meet near Columbia, a few miles above the city. During this movement General Beauregard evacuated the city, and on Friday morning the enemy entered and took possession without opposition. Our troops were withdrawn to a position some twenty miles from Columbia, where they remained on yesterday. The enemy's force entering Columbia consisted of Sherman's main army, a large portion of which immediately moved up the Charlotte road, while another portion has moved down in the direction of Charleston. The latter city has doubtless ere this been evacuated.

FROM CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON, *February 14.*

The enemy's gun-boats and one monitor have been shelling our picket-lines on James Island all day. All quiet in our immediate front. Nothing definite from above. The enemy keep up a steady shelling of the city.

CHARLESTON, *February 15.*

All quiet along our lines. The enemy are reported this morning to be moving in force near Columbia, on the Lexington road. It is reported that they crossed the Congaree to-day.

FROM WILMINGTON.—FURIOUS CANNONADING OF FORT ANDERSON.

WILMINGTON, *February 18.*

The enemy shelled Fort Anderson furiously yesterday afternoon, nearly all night, and this morning it is reported that a land force also attacked our forces at Anderson, but were repulsed. Cannonading is still going on at 1 p. m. We have no particulars. A dispatch has been received here stating that a force of the enemy, 4,000 strong, 2,000 of it cavalry, are advancing from Knoxville, and had reached Greeneville, which is fifty-four miles from Bristol. This expedition is supposed to be another raid on the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad.

The telegraph operator at Weldon reported yesterday that a raid from Washington or New Berne, N. C., was in progress, the supposed destination of the raiders being Rocky Mount Station, on the Wilmington road, in Edgecombe County. The wires continued to work during yesterday morning through to Wilmington, however, from which it would appear that they had not then struck the road.

A movement of the enemy was reported yesterday in heavy force upon Kinston, N. C., and it was supposed in official quarters that Foster's forces had been moved up to New Berne. A cavalry raid was also reported in the direction of Tarborough. The force moving from New Berne has fifty or sixty pieces of artillery. We shall hear more of these movements in a few days. We are quite certain that they are in progress as we write.

Colonel Hatch, one of our commissioners of exchange, has gone to Wilmington, at which place he will, during the week, exchange 10,000 prisoners. We may remark here that the exchange of prisoners on James River will at the same time go on uninterruptedly.

A desperate affair occurred last Tuesday in Lunenburg County between some deserters from the Confederate army and some of the Ninth Virginia Cavalry, aided by citizens. Several on both sides were wounded. The deserters were finally captured.

General Ewell, commanding Department of Henrico, reports a wholesale robbery of nearly 100 returned paroled prisoners on Saturday night between Camp Lee and the city. Other robberies of returned prisoners are reported as occurring in the streets of Richmond.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 20, 1865—10 a. m.*
(Received 10.10 a. m.)

Major-General HALLECK, *Washington:*

Has General Meagher been dismissed? If he has not, I think it will be well to relieve him from duty. Brig. Gen. Hugh Ewing, now on his way to Washington, might be ordered to take his place.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 20, 1865—11 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *City Point:*

The last of Schofield's troops will get off to-day. Canvas pontoons will be sent from here and New York. Deficiency in length of bridging will be supplied as soon as possible.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 20, 1865—2 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *City Point:*

The President has not acted on Meagher. The Secretary of War thinks you had better order General Schofield to relieve and send him home.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Savannah, Ga., February 20, 1865.

His Excellency R. E. FENTON,
Governor of the State of New York:

GOVERNOR: In the absence of the major-general commanding in the field, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt at these headquarters of the joint resolutions passed by the senate and assembly of the State of New York, commendatory of the conduct and service of the general and the officers and men under his command.* The resolutions and letter of transmittal will be forwarded to the general as soon as communication is opened to him.

I have the honor to be, Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

R. M. SAWYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
In the Field, February 20, 1865—8 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: The command moved in good order to Muddy Springs. On our arrival at that point I found a scarcity of water and moved on about two miles and a half north of the Muddy Springs and the command (Fifteenth Army Corps) is now in camp here. My headquarters are near the crossing of the Winnsborough and upper Camden

* See Vol. XLIV, p. 18.

roads. The rear guard swept everything clear of Columbia, and at 2 p. m., when some of my staff officers left, the city was clear of all stragglers and very quiet. A small squad of the enemy's cavalry, about 100, appeared on our right flank, but were driven off without disturbing our march. I send you a copy of my order of march for to-morrow.*

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

P. S.—The Seventeenth Army Corps is encamped along the line of the railroad.

O. O. H.,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 44.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Rice Creek Springs, February 20, 1865.

I. The movement to-morrow will commence at 7 a. m. The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will move forward on the same road, crossing Twenty-five Mile Creek. He will make as much distance as possible toward Poplar Spring, but will at least arrive at the cross-roads at Harrison's. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will continue to move along the railroad, occupy Winnsborough, completing the destruction of the railroad up to that point. The bridge train will continue to follow the Seventeenth Army Corps. The refugee train will follow the rear division of the Fifteenth Army Corps. Department headquarters will follow the leading division of the Fifteenth Army Corps, and will be to-morrow night near the cross-roads at Harrison's.

II. Capt. P. A. Taylor, chief signal officer, will organize a detective force to operate under his temporary direction for the purpose of discovering the authors of the numerous outrages that have been committed by persons of this command. He will particularly endeavor to discover those who have taken or may take such articles as watches, jewelry, money, &c., from the persons or houses of citizens.

III. Paragraph 2, Special Field Orders, No. 43, from these headquarters, is so modified as to direct Maj. F. C. Gillette, provost-marshal-general Fifteenth Army Corps, to take charge of the refugees accompanying this command. Major Gillette will see that all citizens accompanying this army as refugees improperly, as well as surplus baggage belonging to refugees, are sent to Winnsborough. He will be authorized also to impress from citizens the necessary transportation and animals to provide for the train.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, S. C., February 20, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to make the following report of the destruction of property in and about Columbia, S. C., done in compli-

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* See next, *post.*

ance with written instructions from Lieut. Col. William E. Strong, assistant inspector-general, Army of the Tennessee, dated February 18, 1865. Owing to the great variety of articles and property destroyed and the general confusion they were in, it has been impossible to make actual inventories. The following are estimates, and I believe them to be in most cases rather under than above the actual amount: 1,000 bales of cotton, 19 locomotives (these comprised all the locomotives in and about the city, they were destroyed by burning the wood work and breaking everything breakable about their machinery and punching holes in their boilers and tenders); 20 box-cars (all that were left of a large number destroyed by the incendiary fires of the 17th instant); all the buildings not previously burned belonging to the South Carolina Railroad and depot, 2 large freight sheds being included; in these freight sheds were destroyed 60 sets complete of six-mule team harness, 1,000 pounds of trace chains, 40 kegs of nails, 25 kegs railroad iron spikes, 5 tons of railroad machinery of various kinds, and a large miscellaneous collections of articles valuable to the enemy, which it was impracticable under the circumstances to classify and make an inventory of; 650 car wheels (destroyed by sledging off the flanges); 2 buildings filled with stationery belonging to the so-called Confederate States, consisting of note, cap, letter, and envelope paper, envelopes, steel pens, penholders, ink, and quartermasters' and other blanks. These things were mixed up in a heterogeneous mass. The only way I can convey an idea of the amount is to estimate them at two tons' weight. Twenty-five powder mills. These comprised all the powder mills along the Congaree River; the machinery was destroyed and the mills blown up. The so-called Confederate States armory, situated on the Congaree River, comprising warehouses, machine shops, foundry, and offices; the machinery of the shops and a large amount of other machinery which had not been taken out of the original packages was broken thoroughly by sledging, and the ruin completed afterwards by burning the buildings. A large amount, probably half a ton, of all varieties of files and other gun-making tools in the original packages were destroyed; the gunstocks and barrels and muskets destroyed here have been reported by the ordnance officers. The smoke-stacks of six manufactories of various kinds were thrown over or blown up. Ten tons of machinery, said to belong to the Confederate States, found packed in boxes under a shed on the common, was destroyed, consisting of a stationary engine and lathe and other machinery, the use of which could not be ascertained. The destruction of all property mentioned in the directions is believed to be entire and complete. The above list does not include the entire amount, but is as accurate as the circumstances will admit.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. E. YORKE,

Lieut. Col. and Asst. Inspector-General, Fifteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Muddy Springs, S. C., February 20, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that I left camp at Columbia at 1 p. m. to-day, marching out in rear of the trains of the Fourth Division, on the direct Camden road, encamping at 9 p. m. about thirteen miles

from Columbia, with my troops facing north and south. My headquarters are near the springs, and but a short distance from the roadside.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Muddy Run, S. C., February 20, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that my division broke camp at 9 a. m. to-day, marching to this point, where it arrived at 5 p. m. and is now all here.

My headquarters are about 300 yards west of the main road.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Three Miles North of Muddy Springs, S. C., February 20, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command broke camp on Charlotte Railroad, near Columbia, at 7 o'clock this a. m., and marched on neighborhood roads to main Camden road, striking same four miles from Columbia; thence on Camden road to near Roberts', and then north on Winnsborough road to intersection of Winnsborough, Columbia and Camden roads, the advance reaching camp at 4 p. m. Distance marched, twenty-two miles. The position of the division is as follows: The left of the First Brigade rests upon the Winnsborough and its right upon the Camden road, fronting northeast. The right of the Second Brigade rests upon the Columbia road, and fronts in a northerly direction. These headquarters are established on the left of the Winnsborough road, immediately in rear of the Second Brigade.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 21.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Muddy Springs, S. C., February 20, 1865.

I. The troops of this division will march at 5.30 a. m. to-morrow, sharp, on the Winnsborough road, crossing Twenty-five Mile Creek, past Round Top; thence across the Winnsborough and Camden road toward Poplar Springs, the formation of the column as follows, viz, First, Second Brigade Infantry, with Battery H, First Missouri Artillery, with one regiment in rear. Second, Third Brigade Infantry, moving by the side of the trains, extended so as to guard them in the best possible manner. Third, trains in the following order: 1, Ten wagons of ordnance; 2, ambulances; 3, train of advanced brigade; 4, ordnance train; 5, supply train. Fourth, First Brigade Infantry, with one regiment

thrown by the side of the supply train. The pioneer corps will move in advance, and its train at the head of the ordnance and supply trains, until further orders.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. TWENTY-NINTH MISSOURI MOUNTED INFANTRY,
Columbia, S. C., February 20, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Pursuant to orders I left camp Saturday, the 18th instant, at 3 p. m., and marched on the Bluff road to Chappell's plantation, ten miles from Columbia, where I encamped for the night. The morning of the 19th I struck camp at 6 a. m., rode to Gadsden Station, where I found the depot and rebel commissary burned. From Gadsden Station I marched to Kingsville and destroyed the rebel warehouses which were filled with rebel quartermaster and commissary stores; also, the depot and other railroad buildings. At this place we captured a telegraph operator in the act of firing the Government stores. I sent the Twenty-ninth Missouri to the Wateree River, holding the Seventh Illinois in reserve near Kingsville. At the river we destroyed the railroad bridge and the trestle-work on the opposite bank. The former was about 375 feet long; the latter three miles in length. The bridge was completely destroyed and the trestle-work fired in twenty different places. Having burned the bridge I returned, destroying the bridges and culverts in my rear. All this was accomplished without opposition. We met with only five rebels, who ran upon the approach of the command. In addition to the above we destroyed ten or twelve railroad cars and about 300 bales of cotton. Returning, camped last night, the 19th instant, at Adams' plantation; struck camp at 12 p. m. and marched to this place, where I arrived at 6 o'clock this a. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CH. BURKHARDT,
Major Twenty-ninth Missouri Infantry.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Rice Creek Springs, S. C., February 20, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR, Jr.,
Comdg. Seventeenth Army Corps, Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: I desire to call your attention to the fact that some of our soldiers have been committing the most outrageous robberies of watches, jewelry, &c. A case has come to my notice where a watch and several articles of jewelry were stolen by a foraging party under the eye of the commissioned officer in charge. Another, where a brute had violently assaulted a lady by striking her, and had then robbed her of a valuable gold watch. In one instance money was stolen to the amount of $150, and another, where an officer with a foraging party had allowed his men to take rings off the fingers of ladies in his presence. To-day a soldier was found plundering, arrested, placed under the guard of one of General Corse's orderlies, and was liberated by some of his comrades who had arms in their hands, and who threatened the life

of the guard. These outrages must be stopped at all hazards, and the thieves and robbers who commit them be dealt with severely and summarily. I am inclined to think that there is a regularly organized banditti who commit these outrages and who share the spoils. I call upon you and upon all the officers and soldiers under you, who have one spark of honor or respect for the profession which they follow, to help me put down these infamous proceedings and to arrest the perpetrators. Please furnish to every inspector, provost-marshal, and officer in charge of a foraging party a copy of this letter, and enjoin them to be on the watch to stop these infamous proceedings, and to bring to justice the individuals who commit them.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

(Same to General Logan, commanding Fifteenth Army Corps.)

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Level Post-Office, S. C., February 20, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: My command is encamped on the railroad fifteen miles from Columbia. The railroad is destroyed two miles beyond here. I shall occupy Winnsborough to-morrow evening, and will destroy as much of the road as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 47. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Doko, S. C., February 20, 1865.

The following are the orders for to-morrow:

Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will have the advance and will move forward at 8 a. m. on the direct road to Winnsborough.

Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will follow the First Division, being prepared to move at 9 o'clock.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will follow the Third Division, and will be prepared to move at 10 o'clock.

Each division commander will detach one brigade to destroy railroad. The brigade from the Fourth Division will move at 8 o'clock, and commencing two miles from their present camp will destroy three miles. The brigade from the Third Division will move at 7.30 o'clock, commencing five miles from General Smith's camp will destroy three miles. The brigade from the First Division will move at 7 o'clock, and commencing eight miles from General Smith's camp will destroy three miles.

Col. J. B. Yates, commanding First Michigan Engineers, will assign three companies from his regiment to each brigade to twist the rails, and the brigade commander will pile the ties and rails for burning in such manner as the officer in charge of the engineers may direct. As

soon as the work is completed the brigades will proceed via Ridgeway to camp, which will be on the railroad within about five miles of Winnsborough.

The train of the First Michigan Engineers will move next after the train of the Third Division and will be followed by the bridge train.

The train of headquarters Military Division of the Mississippi and of these headquarters will follow the troops of the First Division.

The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will be prepared to move at 7.30 o'clock and will await orders.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 14.

HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Mrs. O'Neil's House,
February 20, 1865.

The movements of the corps to-morrow will be as follows:

General Carlin will march at 6 a. m. from his present position upon the main road toward Winnsborough, endeavoring to keep abreast with the Twentieth Corps, which will move in the same direction from S. Owens' in the morning.

General Baird will march at 6 a. m., crossing Kinkish Bridge, over Little River, and following General Carlin.

General Morgan will move with the trains of the corps at 10 a. m., and will follow the column.

Corps headquarters and the reserve artillery and ammunition trains will move in rear of General Baird.

Further orders will be given the division commanders during the day.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.]

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Owens' Farm, February 20, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow toward Winnsborough, as follows: Second Division at 6.30 a. m., Third Division at 7 a. m., First Division at 8 a. m. The troops of the Second and Third Divisions will march in advance, unencumbered with wagons. Ten ammunition wagons to each the Second and Third Divisions will follow the Third Division. The First Division will march with and protect the whole train of the corps. One battery of artillery will march in rear of the advanced brigade of the Second Division; one section will report to General Jackson, to march with the rear; the balance of the artillery will march in rear of the Second Division. The wagons of the artillery will march in rear of the twenty ammunition wagons. The pontoon train will follow the artillery wagons, starting at 8 a. m. The cattle herds will accompany the trains. The pack train of the two advanced divisions will march in rear of the Third Division.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT,
No. 30. } DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 20, 1865.

I. The post of Morris Island will be immediately transferred to Charleston City. The quartermaster's department will furnish the transportation.

* * * * * * *

IV. Lieut. Col. A. G. Bennett, Twenty-first U. S. Colored Troops, is hereby placed in command of the city of Charleston. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

V. Major Willoughby, Twenty-first U. S. Colored Troops, is hereby appointed provost-marshal-general of the city of Charleston. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

* * * * * * *

VII. The orders creating the posts of Morris and Folly Islands are hereby revoked.

* * * * * * *

By order of Brig. Gen. A. Schimmelfennig:

J. W. DICKINSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. NORTHERN DIST., DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 20, 1865.

No soldier will be permitted to enter Charleston City without a pass from his commanding officer. None but regimental commanders and commanding officers of detachments will give such permits. Every man without a pass, except the soldiers of the Twenty-first U. S. Colored Troops, will be immediately arrested and turned over to the provost-guard. All soldiers detailed in the staff departments will be immediately provided with passes. These passes will be printed and will be distinguished by a mark easily recognizable. Blanks will be furnished immediately.

By order of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig:

J. W. DICKINSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
Charleston, S. C., February 20, 1865.

Lieutenant QUINN,
Commanding Battery B, Third New York Artillery:

LIEUTENANT: Your battery will move out to the picket-lines and report to Colonel Kozlay. Lieutenant Dodge, Third Rhode Island Artillery, will command the same until further orders. The Thirty-third U. S. Colored Troops detached with the battery is hereby relieved. Their places will be supplied from the Third New York Artillery.

By order of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig:

J. W. DICKINSON,
Capt., 21st U. S. Colored Troops, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 20, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Fort Fisher:

General Halleck telegraphed me at 11 a. m. to-day that the last of your troops will get off to-day. Canvas pontoons will be sent from Washington and New York, and the deficiency in length of bridging will be supplied as soon as possible.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 20, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Fort Fisher, N. C.:

The rebel Government will deliver a large number of our prisoners to us near Wilmington during the present and ensuing week. If our agent of exchange is not there, receive them and forward to Annapolis. Do not allow this exchange of prisoners to interfere in any manner with your proposed military operations. Relieve General Meagher, to proceed to his place of residence and report by letter to the Adjutant-General for orders. Richmond papers of to-day report that Charleston was evacuated on the 14th [17th]. General Sherman is in possession of Columbia. Beauregard is falling back toward Charlotte, N. C., where he is expected by the enemy to make a stand. The advance of Sherman is reported at Winnsborough.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Town Creek, February 20, 1865—11 a. m.

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

I have one brigade across the creek by the flat-boat, another passing. They will soon move around to the flank of the enemy's position.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

TOWN CREEK, *February 20, 1865—6 p. m.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Commanding:

After great labor I succeeded in getting three brigades across the creek and through the rice fields, and about 4 o'clock struck the Wilmington road nearest the river, some two miles in the rear of the rebel position. I ordered Moore's brigade across to the Wilmington road farthest from the river, and with Casement's and Sterl's brigades came straight down in rear of the rebels. They had a light line of works facing the rear and two guns in position. Our men charged, carrying the line, capturing the artillery, and about 375 prisoners, including the colonel commanding the brigade. I hope Moore has intercepted others who fled toward the Manchester road in utter confusion. My casualties are about thirty. There is no enemy where the fleet are exploding shells.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

FEBRUARY 20, 1865—7.30 a. m.

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

I have not yet received the written orders sent to me last night.

A. H. TERRY,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 38. } HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Fort Fisher, N. C., February 20, 1865.

The Second Brigade, First Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps, will report direct to these headquarters until further orders.

By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCHING ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Federal Point, N. C., February 20, 1865.

The divisions of Generals Ames and Paine will advance up the main road, Paine's division leading. Abbott's brigade will advance up the military road. Should the enemy be found in his expected position beyond Mott's Creek, the main body will attack them in front, while Abbott's brigade attacks his left flank and endeavors to turn it. Myrick's battery will accompany the main body; Lee's battery will accompany General Abbott. General Abbott will not, without further orders, advance more than two miles beyond his present position on the military road. He will endeavor to keep up communication with the main body by couriers and patrols, and will keep the commanding general, who accompanies the main body, constantly informed of his progress. He will also reconnoiter all roads by which he can cross to the main road.

By order of Major-General Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FEBRUARY 20, 1865.

Major CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I found the enemy in strong force behind entirely new intrenchments. I shall intrench myself for to-night in this position unless I receive other orders from General Terry.

AMES,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 51. } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., February 20, 1865.

* * * * * * *

V. In view of the very extensive operations that are about to commence, and Morehead City being the most important point upon the whole line of sea coast, it is deemed advisable that the headquarters of the Sub-District of Beaufort and the quarters of all the officers connected therewith be at Morehead City, and it is therefore so

ordered. The garrison of Beaufort will be one company of the Seventeenth Massachusetts Volunteers. All other troops will be removed elsewhere. The headquarters of the First North Carolina (Union) Volunteers will be at Fort Macon, where it was ordered to be when that regiment was first sent to the Sub-District of Beaufort. The commanding officer of the regiment shall be the commandant of that fort.

* * * * * * *

By command of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[FEBRUARY 21, 1865.—For Grant to Meade, relating to re-enforcements of cavalry for Sherman, &c., see Vol. XLVI, Part I, p. 669.]

CITY POINT, *February 21, 1865.*
(Received 3.30 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

The following paragraphs are taken from to-day's Richmond papers:

SOUTH CAROLINA.—CHARLESTON.

On last Thursday night, the 16th instant, our forces evacuated Charleston, and it is believed that the enemy took possession during the next day. Many guns must have been abandoned by our troops, but it is consoling to know that the Yankees got little else. There was no cotton at Charleston to gladden Lincoln's heart, and the city itself was little better than a deserted ruin. Several telegraph operators, all of them men of Northern birth, did not come out with our forces, but remained to receive the Yankees.

FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.

Winnsborough, S. C., is thirty-seven miles this side of Columbia, and it is rumored this morning that the enemy have occupied it. The News, published there on the 16th, stated that the day before a large drove of Government stock, consisting of about 460 head of cattle and the same amount of sheep, passed through Winnsborough from Anderson. On the morning of the 16th another large lot passed through, bound for a point out of the reach of Sherman's scouts.

GOLDSBOROUGH, 19th.

A Yankee force from New Berne, some 500 strong, passed through Greenville yesterday, and when last heard from were advancing on Tarborough. It is thought to be a mere raiding party. General Baker is after them. Another party is reported coming up the south side of the Neuse. This needs confirmation. No trouble is anticipated.

FROM NORTH CAROLINA.—RAIDS ON TARBOROUGH AND GOLDSBOROUGH.

It is said that a cavalry force of the enemy was advancing on Tarborough on Tar River, near the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. A force (numbers unknown) is also reported as moving on Goldsborough from New Berne, along the south bank of the Neuse. We fear there is much truth in these statements. The enemy have for several weeks been concentrating at New Berne. Raleigh is 100 miles from New Berne; Goldsborough is midway between the two places. It was reported that a large Yankee cavalry force was advancing on Salisbury from East Tennessee, but there was nothing in it. The Senate bill to raise 200,000 negro soldiers will, it is understood, be passed to-day in secret session. It is said a similar bill passed the House of Representatives, in secret session, yesterday.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington City, February 21, 1865.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a communication from Col. James A. Hardie, inspector-general U. S. Army, dated 10th instant, furnishing extracts for the information of the Quartermaster-General concerning the march of General Sherman's army to Savannah, &c. The remarks on the march of infantry alongside of the trains are interesting. The Quartermaster-General in passing over the route of the rebel march to Gettysburg noticed that this had been the practice of that army, the troops marching in the fields on each side of the turnpike, which was occupied by the trains. In regard to the suffering for want of forage after the arrival of General Sherman's army at Savannah, from all that the Quartermaster-General could learn while at Savannah, it resulted from the delay in opening navigable communication with Hilton Head, to which point all the forage ordered by the military authority was ordered from the North, with the exception of a portion sent by General Grant's order to Pensacola. Daily shipments equivalent to 35,000 rations were made from the time it was evident that General Sherman would strike the coast at Savannah, and the Quartermaster-General believes that these shipments were regularly made. The exceeding roughness of the weather delayed some of the vessels. One arrived while the Quartermaster-General was at Savannah, having been twenty-four days out of New York. All that was possible was done, and with greater success than is recorded of such great movements in other countries. General Sherman left some 4,000 animals at Savannah and informed the Quartermaster-General that he had enough. The loss appears to have fallen principally upon the artillery and cavalry which remained in Savannah, expecting every day that the obstructions would be removed and supplies brought up.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General U. S. Army, and Brevet Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 24.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, February 21, 1865.

Ordered, That a national salute be fired to-morrow noon, February 22, at West Point, and at every fort, arsenal, and army headquarters of the United States, in honor of the restoration of the flag of the Union upon Fort Sumter.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, February 21, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD:

Your dispatch of yesterday is to hand. This column is moving as per your orders received and will reach the point designated. Generals

Slocum and Kilpatrick will also be at the points intended, where all will be in communication to-night, and you can also. All well.

I am, general, with respect, &c.,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HARRISON'S CROSS-ROADS, S. C. (Dr. BOYD'S),
February 21, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I arrived at this point at about 1 p. m. My headquarters are at the house of Dr. Boyd, near the cross-road which leads to Poplar Springs. It is five miles from this point to Poplar Springs. General Corse, who leads to-day, will push out on that road some distance.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

P. S.—General Woods' division was marched to Longtown with a view to making a demonstration at Mickles' Ferry. It will join us at Peay's Ferry, the next ferry north.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS, &C.,
Winnsborough, February 21, [1865]—6 p. m.

Major-General HOWARD:

DEAR GENERAL: Generals Slocum and Davis are here. Slocum sends his pontoons and wagons to-morrow straight for the ferry at Rocky Mount Post-Office by Gladden's Grove. He will keep four divisions breaking road up as far as the Chester District line, and aim to cross his whole command the day after to-morrow. Let Blair finish up the road good to this point, and then assemble at Poplar Springs and effect a crossing of the Wateree, prepared to get all across the day after to-morrow. Slocum will assemble his command at Gladden's. Communicate with me there or at Rocky Mount. After crossing, Slocum and the cavalry will have the road from Lancaster to Chesterfield and you from your ferry straight for Cheraw, dipping a little south, to get on the Camden road. I will keep with the Twentieth Corps, which is Slocum's right.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 45.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Harrison's Cross-Roads, S. C., February 21, 1865.

The movements to-morrow at 6.30 a. m.: Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, commanding Fifteenth Army Corps, will march his First Division, Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. Woods commanding, to Peay's Ferry, causing a slight demonstration to be made at Mickles' Ferry. A small force will also

be sent to guard the crossings of Wateree Creek. The other three divisions of the corps will move to Peay's Ferry via Poplar Spring. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will move to Poplar Spring. The bridge train, in case it is still with the Seventeenth Army Corps, will move behind the ordnance train of the leading division of that corps. If it is with the Fifteenth Army Corps it will move in rear of the leading division of that corps. Department headquarters will follow the leading division of the Fifteenth Army Corps.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Camp Near Longtown, S. C., February 21, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that I started out of camp about 9 a. m. to-day, following out in rear of the Second Division. Leaving it, however, after having gone some ten miles, I continued with my command in the direction [of] Longtown, camping within one mile of that place at 8 in the evening, two brigades looking toward it, with one facing back on the road over which I had marched. My headquarters are within one mile of the cross-roads at Longtown.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Dutchman's Creek, S. C., February 21, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that my division left camp this morning at 9.30 o'clock, closely following the Fourth Division, marching to this point, which it reached a little after dark. My headquarters are about 400 yards east of the crossing.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Harrison's Cross-Roads, S. C., February 21, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command broke camp at intersection of Columbia, Camden, and Winnsborough roads at noon, and marched via Round Top and Concord Church to Harrison's Cross-Roads, encamping at 11.45 p. m. The ground upon which the command is encamped was chosen with reference to the comfort of the troops rather than for defensive purposes. Headquarters are at the fork of the roads; distance marched, seventeen miles.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, on Dutchman's Creek, S. C., February 21, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to make the following report of the movements of my command this instant: I broke camp near Muddy Springs at 5.30 a. m., and moved past Round Top across Twenty-five Mile Creek to the Camden road, striking it at a point about three miles distant from Ridgeway, and thence to the right along the Camden road to the intersection by the Rocky Mount road, down which I have moved my command two miles and placed it in position and bivouac on the south bank of Dutchman's Creek.

I have marched my division twenty-one miles, most of the route traversed being by private roads.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 22. } HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, on Dutchman's Creek, S. C., February 21, 1865.

I. The troops of this division will be in readiness to move at 7 a. m. to-morrow, the 22d instant, on Wateree River, taking the Rocky Mount road, in the following order:

First, Third Brigade Infantry and battery; second, trains in same order as the 21st instant; third, First Brigade Infantry, marching by the side of the trains; fourth, Second Brigade Infantry, with strong rear guard, which will bring forward all stragglers of whatever command.

Inasmuch as this division will probably be the rear of the column, the troops will be in readiness, but will not move until further orders.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Simpson's Turnout, S. C., February 21, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: My command is encamped at this point, six miles from Winnsborough. We have destroyed thirteen miles of railroad to-day. I shall move to-morrow, via Winnsborough, to Poplar Spring, destroying the road to Winnsborough. I am obliged to go by the latter place, as there is no road leading direct from here to Poplar Spring.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 48. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Simpson's Station, S. C., February 21, 1865.

The march to-morrow will be via Winnsborough to Poplar Spring Post-Office.

The Third Division, Brig. Gen. M. F. Force commanding, will have the advance, and will move forward at 8 a. m.

The Fourth Division, Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith commanding, will follow the Third Division, being prepared to move at 9 o'clock.

The First Division, Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower commanding, will follow the Fourth Division, being prepared to move at 10 o'clock.

The train of the First Michigan Engineers and Mechanics will follow the Fourth Division train.

A brigade from each division will be detached to destroy the railroad. The First Division will destroy two miles, commencing at the station and working north. The Fourth Division will destroy the next two miles, and the Third Division the next two miles. The work will be done in the same manner as to-day; that is, the rails will be twisted by the First Michigan Engineers and Mechanics, and Col. J. B. Yates, commanding, will assign three companies to each brigade for that purpose. The work will be commenced on the road at 6 a. m., and as soon as finished the working parties will move forward, following the command.

The trains of headquarters Military Division of the Mississippi and of these headquarters will move next after the troops of the Third Division.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Winnsborough, S. C., February 21, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Army:

GENERAL: My command occupied Winnsborough this morning at 10 o'clock. A part of it is now destroying the railroad north of this place. I shall await further orders from you here.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 24.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Winnsborough, S. C., February 21, 1865.

The First and Third Divisions, Twentieth Army Corps, with the trains of the entire corps and all the pontoon trains, will move at 6 a. m. to-morrow and march to Rocky Mount Post-Office, on the Catawba River. General Williams will endeavor to effect a crossing at that point and lay a pontoon bridge. The Second Division, Twentieth Army Corps, will be employed in the destruction of the railroad as far north as White Oak, and will hold Winnsborough until this destruction is completed. The trains of the Fourteenth Corps, under one division, will encamp to-morrow night near Wateree Meeting House. The other two divisions will break the railroad as far north from White Oak as possible, and will, with trains, be marched on the 23d to Rocky Mount Post-Office, on the Wateree River.

By command of Maj. Gen. H. W. Slocum:

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 15.

HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Winnsborough, S. C.,
February 21, 1865.

The corps will move to-morrow as follows:

General Carlin will move at 6 a. m. by the most direct road from Adger's to the vicinity of Springwell Post-Office, and will destroy the railroad from that point back to Youngsville.

General Baird, marching at 6.30 a. m., will move to White Oak and will destroy the road from that point to Youngsville.

General Morgan, with the trains of the corps, will move in the rear of General Baird to White Oak and thence to Wateree Meeting House, and will park the trains to-morrow night at that point, on the left-hand side of the road from Winnsborough to Gladden's Grove Post-Office.

The reserve artillery and ammunition trains will move at 6 a. m. in the rear of General Baird to White Oak, and thence to Wateree Meeting House, and will encamp at that point.

Corps headquarters will be with General Carlin's division.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Beaver Dam Creek, S. C.,
February 21, 1865.

The First and Third Divisions of this corps will march to-morrow toward Rocky Mount Post-Office, as follows:

Third Division, without trains, at 6.30 a. m.; First Division at 7 a. m. General Jackson will dispose of his troops so as to cover all the trains of the corps. He will detail three regiments as a rear guard. One section of artillery will march with the rear; one battery will march in rear of General Ward's advance brigade. The balance of the artillery will march in rear of the Third Division. The order of march of the trains will be: Pontoon train immediately behind the artillery, Third Division train, First Division train, Second Division train. General Geary will leave a sufficient force at Winnsborough to hold that place, and with the balance of his command will continue the destruction of the railroad northward to White Oak Station. As soon as this is done he will march his whole command, via Rocky Mount Post-Office, to rejoin the corps.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—This order will supersede the former order given for to-morrow's operations.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Beaver Dam Creek, S. C., February 21, 1865.

Brigadier-General JACKSON,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding the corps directs that you move all the trains of the corps escorted by your division to the vicinity

of Wateree Creek, near Wateree Church, starting at 8 a. m. to-morrow. The trains will move in the following order: Artillery, pontoon train, Second Division, Third Division, First Division. An advanced guard of three regiments will be sufficient.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Beaver Dam Creek, S. C., February 21, 1865.

Brevet Major-General GEARY,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The brevet major-general commanding directs me to inform you that the corps will march from here to-morrow to the vicinity of Wateree Meeting House.

In the absence of other orders, he desires that as soon as you have completed the destruction of that part of the railroad assigned to you that you rejoin the corps with your command at the above-mentioned point. General Ward is ordered to destroy the railroad from the upper road crossing to White Oak Station.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 15.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Winnsborough, S. C., February 21, 1865.

During to-morrow the Second and Third Brigades of this division will continue the destruction of the railroad northward as far as White Oak, if possible.

The destruction must be performed most thoroughly. One mile well destroyed is worth two half done.

The First Brigade will remain on duty in Winnsborough and vicinity.

Orders will be issued to-morrow indicating at what point the brigades will concentrate.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary.

W. T. FORBES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Winnsborough, February 21, 1865.

Major-General KILPATRICK,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I presume you now to be about Lemon's or Buckhead Post-Office, and base my present calculations on that supposition. I would like you to move with your whole force to the neighborhood of Black Stocks Depot or Springwell Post-Office, taking position and maneuvering so as to seem to be the advance of the whole army in the direction of Chesterville and Charlotte, and to cover General Davis'

operations in breaking up the railroad as far as he can during to-morrow and next day. As soon as Davis withdraws to cross the Catawba, move with him and cross to the east bank of the Catawba (or Wateree) on Slocum's pontoons, which will be laid at Rocky Mount Post-Office. I would like to have you all across during the night of the 23d, so you can move next day on Lancaster. I would like to have the railroad bridge across Broad River at the mouth of Tiger burned, and think the enemy himself will burn it if you approach it or send a small party to threaten it; also several of the bridges and trestles on the same railroad below where it crosses Broad River about Ashford's Ferry and Dawkins'. I hope you have already damaged that road considerably. I wish, as a rule, whenever you are near a railroad, you will, unless cautioned otherwise, have your men burn bridges, depots, and water-tanks, and break switches; also, all sawmills should be destroyed, not only burned, but the engines and boilers disabled. Davis will be near you and will be at hand in case of need, but I don't want you to be drawn off so that you can not have your trains and men ready to pass the pontoons during the night of the 23d. Better caution your commanders so as to keep in the foragers, else they will be left behind, as some were about Columbia. I will be with this wing some days, and should like to see you either here, or, better, at the bridge in crossing the Catawba. I inclose you General Slocum's orders for to-morrow and next day.* General Howard will be at Poplar Spring and Peay's Ferry.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

FEBRUARY 21, 1865.

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

Scouts have been from General Terry's left to the river, but without meeting the enemy or head of General Ames' column. They struck the river at a crib wharf. The enemy's line seems not to reach the river, but General Ames should find out.

COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Campbell's Island, N. C., February 21, 1865.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. GEORGE S. DODGE,
Chief Quartermaster:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires you to see to the execution of the inclosed order† (Special Orders, No. 10, paragraph 3). The general further directs that you have all troops that may arrive landed at Fort Fisher (Federal Point) until further orders. From there they will march to join their respective commands, providing themselves with three days' rations when they start.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Special Field Orders, No. 24, p. 516. † See p. 520.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Campbell's Island, N. C., February 21, 1865—5.15 p. m.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. GEORGE S. DODGE,
Chief Quartermaster:

GENERAL: I have decided not to transfer General Cox's troops to-night, and may not do it at all. Hence I send you the Christopher, to assist in unloading the troops which have just arrived. As soon as you have them unloaded bring them directly to this place and land them on the east bank. I would like to get them all to this place to-morrow, if possible. Land the horses at the Point and let them march up.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Send some ambulance horses to General Terry as soon as you get them.

J. M. S.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 10. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Campbell's Island, N. C., February 21, 1865.

* * * * * * *

III. All the pontoons, flats, and navy small boats will be ready at or near the mouth of Town Creek by 4 o'clock this p. m. to carry troops across the river.

The lightest draft steamer will be near the steamer S. R. Spaulding to render any assistance that may be necessary. Two steamers will be at Fort Anderson by dark this evening to transfer Major-General Cox's artillery horses and wagons to Federal Point.

IV. The steamer Russia will proceed to Beaufort Harbor, N. C., with dispatches to be delivered at Morehead City. She will await dispatches from General Palmer and return to these headquarters, bringing a party of operators and telegraph repairers for duty at these headquarters.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Campbell's Island, N. C., February 21, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

If you can destroy the bridge over Brunswick River or break the railroad to-day do so, but be ready to cross the river early this evening near the mouth of Town Creek.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
February 21, 1865.

General COX:

GENERAL: My last report from General Terry indicates that he will not be able to force the enemy back from the position held by him last evening. General Terry thinks Hoke has his whole force in his front. It will therefore be necessary to transfer your troops to the east bank of the river to-night. The men will be put across in small boats near the mouth of Town Creek unless Terry succeeds in effecting a lodgment higher up. In the latter event I will signal you. Otherwise, move your troops to the mouth of Town Creek without further orders. Let your artillery and animals go down to Fort Anderson. I will have them sent from that place by steamers to Federal Point this evening.

If you can destroy the bridges over the Brunswick River to-day do so, but in any event be ready to commence crossing the river by dusk or earlier if practicable. You might perhaps send back a brigade or two while the others are doing the work.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Brunswick River Ferry, February 21, 1865.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Commanding:

My head of column reached this place about 1 o'clock. The rebels had partially destroyed their pontoon bridge, but from the wreck I got several boats and have put a regiment over on the island. They got most of the way across when the enemy opened with one gun, commanding the straight road. As the rest of the island seems impracticably swampy this checked our reconnaissance, but there can be little doubt the rebels are evacuating. They have made immense fires, the smoke of which you must have seen, indicating that they are destroying turpentine, &c. A few skirmishers were on the opposite side of Brunswick River when we reached it, but they ran at once. The enemy has destroyed all flat-boats within reach, but I may hunt some up. I am pushing a reconnaissance farther up the river by way of threatening to cross above the island and so hasten their movements. I shall put my command in position covering the crossing and the Georgetown road, and watch the movements in the town. The railroad bridge across Brunswick River is partially destroyed, and we hear the cars on the other side of the town from here. I cannot doubt that General Terry will have an open road in the morning, and think from the general indications that I am entirely secure here. I will face in all directions and get all the intelligence I can while awaiting orders. There is no railroad or other bridge over Cape Fear River.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

BRUNSWICK BRIDGE, *February 21, 1865—6 p. m.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

Your dispatch directing movement is only just received, the messenger having lost his way. As I am eight miles from the mouth of Town

Creek, and it is already dark, your directions cannot be literally followed, and the circumstances impress me so strongly with the belief that the enemy are about to evacuate Wilmington to-night, that I venture to send one brigade now and wait further orders before withdrawing all. It will take all night to get the whole command to Town Creek, and it seems impossible to cross them all, beginning at an hour so much later than you anticipated when sending the dispatch. Some engineers on the railroad who have come into my lines, several other citizens, and a number of slaves all agree in reporting the intention of evacuating immediately. The destruction of immense quantities of property since I came up this evening looks the same way. I have collected and repaired nearly all of the pontoons and materials of the bridge, and had begun relaying them when your dispatch came. I cannot retire my own force now without it appearing a retreat. I would be entirely willing to stay here with one brigade, and should feel quite confident that I could at any time bring it off safely, if we remained here several days even. Thinking you would not desire more troops at Town Creek than you can cross to-night, I have therefore thought you would, if you knew all the circumstances, think it right to send the one brigade; and if more can cross I can still send them, so as to be not much behind the others if the messenger makes reasonable haste. I believe I mentioned in a former dispatch that the rebels themselves destroyed the Brunswick River railroad bridge.

Very respectfully,

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
February 21, 1865—7.15 p. m.

General COX:

GENERAL: My orderlies and your signal officer seem to have got lost, and I have heard nothing from you since 10.30 a. m. I sent an order to you by an orderly on foot about noon, but do not feel at all certain that it has reached you. I want you to move back abreast of the fleet, just above the mouth of Town Creek, to-night, and be ready to cross the river at dawn of day in the morning. Send all your wagons and horses to Fort Anderson. The men will cross in small boats. Better send a regiment with your wagons, horses, and artillery. Should the enemy be in force in your front it might be necessary to cross Town Creek before crossing the river. About this, act according to your judgment. I intended you to cross the river to-night, but it is now too late.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
February 21, 1865—10.20 p. m.

Major-General COX,
Commanding Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 6 p. m. is just received and is highly satisfactory. The one of an earlier date, but the hour not given, came

at the same time. About 7 o'clock I sent another to you directing you to come back. I hope this will reach you in time to take its place. My orders were based upon General Terry's report of an increase of the force in his front, and that of prisoners that Hardee's forces had arrived from Charleston. I think you would certainly have learned it if the latter were true. That you have sent one brigade back is well. You may send another as soon as you get this dispatch. Keep the other two where you are until daylight in the morning. Then if the rebels have gone you can enter the town, taking care to hold the river crossings. If the enemy has not gone, or you are not positive that he is going, then move back and cross the river as before directed.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Campbell's Island, N. C., February 21, 1865—10.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: Send back another brigade as soon as you get this dispatch. Keep the other two where you are until daylight to-morrow. Then if the enemy has gone you can enter the town, taking care to hold the river crossing. If the enemy has not gone, or you are not positive that he is going, then come back and cross the river.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Brunswick Ferry, February 21, 1865—11.45 p. m.

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

Your dispatch of 7.15 is just received. That sent this morning reached me at dark. I shall put the rest of the command in motion immediately in accordance with your orders.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Brunswick Ferry, February 21, 1865—Midnight.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Commanding:

Your dispatch of 10.20 received in time to stop two brigades. Henderson's and Moore's have gone forward and will report at the river above Town Creek. I will inform you of any changes in the morning. The railroad employés who came in to me informed me positively that Hardee's troops had not come here.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Brunswick Ferry, February 21, 1865—Midnight.

Brevet Brigadier-General HENDERSON,
Commanding Third Brigade:

I have received a dispatch from General Schofield, countermanding in part my movement. You will, however, follow Moore with your brigade according to former orders. The rest of the division I will keep here. You will report to General Schofield and please deliver or send to him the inclosed dispatch.* Your horses will go to Fort Anderson.

Let one of your men who goes with them notify the wagons at our old camp to come forward according to first order. Your regimental baggage is already at Fort Anderson. Communicate with General Schofield in regard to getting it over to you.

Very respectfully,

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Campbell's Island, February 21, 1865—7 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding U. S. Forces East of Cape Fear River:

GENERAL: I have just received your dispatch† inclosing one from General Ames. I approve of your determination to call him in and concentrate your troops to-night. Hold on where you are until I can get more troops on that side of the river. I have not heard from Cox since 10.30 a. m., when he was near the mouth of Brunswick River. I will send him across the river to-morrow. He will not get back in time to cross to-night.

About 5,000 more troops have arrived off the bar and are now unloading. I hope to get them up to-morrow. Please show this to General Comstock if he is still with you.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Before Wilmington, N. C., February 21, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. AMES,
Commanding Second Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you withdraw your force from your present position to the ground in the rear of our main line, where Abbott's brigade was encamped last night, first breaking down the bridges which you have constructed across Barnard's Creek. He desires you to leave a small picket at the mill-dam; also to leave pickets for observation between the mill-pond and the swamp on the left of our main line. Your withdrawal, of course, should be conducted in perfect silence, so as to leave the enemy with the impression that you are still there.

By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See next, *ante*. † Not found.

HILTON HEAD, S. C., *February 21, 1865.*
(Received 1.25 a. m. 25th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Arrived here from Charleston this morning and shall return there to-morrow, after the arrival of the Arago with Northern mails. There are eight locomotives and other rolling-stock in Charleston, but I want some engineers to run them. I also want two good railroad superintendents and some workmen. I am already advancing on the Wilmington Railroad, and hope to be able to aid General Sherman by reaching the Santee River with supplies for him. I have no news from Sherman later than his reported capture of Columbia. I hope to capture Georgetown in a few days, either by an attack from the sea or by moving down with a force north of the Santee River.

Your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Copy sent by Halleck to Grant, February 25.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 21, 1865.

Rear-Admiral JOHN A. DAHLGREN,
Comdg. South Atlantic Blockading Squadron, Charleston, S. C.:

ADMIRAL: I am moving a force out on the Northeastern Railroad toward the Santee River, in order to have supplies there for General Sherman, should he require them. If it be practicable to ascend the Santee River with transports it would cover my movement and open up even a better line for sending supplies on than the railroad. Could you send some gun-boats up on a reconnaissance in order to get information as to the character of that stream? Deserters report the battery at Georgetown to be abandoned by the enemy. I hope to be able to send a few hundred men there to-morrow, and request, if convenient, that a couple of gun-boats be detailed to accompany them. Will you please inform me if this can be done?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 21, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. GROVER,
Commanding District of Savannah, Department of the South:

GENERAL: I inclose herewith a communication* to the commanding general Confederate forces operating near this department. You will have it placed, as soon as possible, in the hands of the officer commanding the rebel pickets nearest your lines.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

*See Gillmore to Commanding General Confederate Forces, Department of South Carolina, &c., February 16, p. 452.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, February 21, 1865—2 p. m.

Major-General DIX,
New York:

This Department has received the official report of Major-General Gillmore, announcing the surrender of the city of Charleston, S. C., to the U. S. forces under his command, at 9 o'clock on Saturday morning, the 18th instant. Among the captured property are 200 pieces of good artillery and a supply of fine ammunition. The enemy burned their cotton warehouses, arsenals, quartermaster stores, railroad bridges, two iron-clads, and some vessels in the ship-yard.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

(Same to Governor Curtin, Harrisburg, Pa.; Governor Bradford, Annapolis, Md.; Governor Fenton, Albany, N. Y.; Governor Andrew, Boston, Mass.; Governor Smith, Providence, R. I.; Governor Buckingham, New Haven, Conn.; Governor Smith, Saint Albans, Vt.; Governor Gilmore, Concord, N. H.; Governor Cony, Augusta, Me.; Governor Brough, Columbus, Ohio; Governor Morton, Indianapolis, Ind.; Governor Oglesby, Springfield, Ill.; Governor Stone, Davenport, Iowa; Governor Lewis, Madison, Wis.; Governor of Michigan, Detroit; Governor Fletcher, Saint Louis, Mo.; Governor Carney, Kansas City, Kans.)

CITY POINT, VA., *February 22, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The following items are taken from to-day's Richmond papers:

Our readers will cheerfully forego their desire to be apprised of the pending military movements in the Carolinas when they are informed that our reticence is in compliance with wishes which have been communicated to all the newspapers.*

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

ENGINEER DEPARTMENT,
Washington, February 22, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding U. S. Armies, &c., &c., City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: Your order of the 19th instant for a bridge equipage for General Schofield, communicated to this department by General Halleck, chief of staff, has been filled as follows: Fifty canvas boats, nineteen boat wagons (16-feet reach), thirty chess wagons (9-feet reach), and a full supply of balks and chesses, and army wagons for the transportation of the balks and chesses. These supplies are now going on board the transports at this city for Wilmington, N. C.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

RICH'D DELAFIELD,
General and Chief of Engineers.

* For portion of dispatch here omitted see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 628.

CONFIDENTIAL.] QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., February 22, 1865.

Colonel CARD:

General Gillmore has orders, as soon as he is in possession of Charleston, to diminish the force in the Department of the South to what will enable him to hold the most important points and to send every man he can spare to North Carolina. The result of this measure will be to diminish the consumption of supplies in the Department of the South. The transportation wagons and animals of the detachment lately sent by General Thomas from the Tennessee River to New Orleans will follow the troops as rapidly as steamers can be provided to move them. Please read and sign this and return it.

Respectfully,

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General, Brevet Major-General.

(Same to Colonel Brown.)

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Peay's Ferry, S. C., February 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: A negro has just come in who left Charleston on Friday. The rebels all left Charleston the same day and our troops immediately took possession of the city. He says they left the city in a great hurry, leaving several light batteries for want of horses, all their heavy guns, and their commissary and quartermaster's stores. He accompanied the troops as far as Summerville and Laurence, where they stopped. Another negro has come in, who was employed in the engineer department on James Island. He left that place one week ago last Monday. He says all the engineers left the same day, going direct through Charleston north. He came through Camden last Monday. Says that General Beauregard was there then, but not many troops. He says the people are not going to destroy the bridge, in the hope that it will be better for the town if it should be captured. The pontoon bridge at this point was begun at 1 p. m. There was only a picket-post here, which ran away at the approach of our soldiers.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Rocky Mount Post-Office, February 22, 1865—9 p. m.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: Yours of to-day from Peay's Ferry has just been received. General Sherman desires me to say he would like to have you put your whole command over the river with due expedition, and suggests it would be well to move out in the direction intended some ten or twelve miles, say Russell Place, until the high or table land may be reached. He also wishes you to reconnoiter for roads toward Cheraw well, and toward Camden. Two divisions of the Twentieth Corps with

the entire train of this wing have reached this point and are mostly in camp. The bridge is completed ready for crossing. The balance of the command are destroying railroad.

I am, general, yours, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 46.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Peay's Ferry, S. C., February 22, 1865.

I. The movements to-morrow will commence at 6.30 a. m. The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will cross the Wateree at Peay's Ferry and move by the most direct route, via Liberty Hill and Red Hill Post-Office, to lower Williams' Cross-Roads. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, crossing the Wateree at Peay's Ferry, will move by the most direct route, via Liberty Hill and Russell Place, to the cross-roads at Williams', near Copeland's. If, in any way, corps commanders can facilitate the movement of the refugee train, or better provide for those belonging to it, the order from these headquarters organizing that train can be so far modified by them as they think best. As soon as the Seventeenth Army Corps has crossed the Wateree the bridge will be taken up and will follow that corps. Department headquarters will follow the leading division of the Fifteenth Army Corps.

II. All foragers and others not authorized to be mounted will be dismounted at the crossing of the Wateree, and the worthless animals will be abandoned on this side of the river. Corps commanders will charge their chief quartermaster with the execution of this order.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Wateree River, S. C., February 22, 1865.

Major-General WOODS,
Commanding First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Owing to the utter impossibility of moving the refugee train over the heavy and difficult roads of the country with any prospect of getting it into camp at a reasonable time for the comfort of the refugees themselves, or of the division with which it moves, the general commanding has decided to divide the train proportionately among the respective divisions of the corps. The sections will report for to-morrow's march as they may be assigned, and division commanders will please designate an appropriate place for them in their column and see that they (the refugees) are rationed and properly cared for in every particular. Should any brigade or division commander desire to have a refugee family move with his headquarters, he will be allowed to receive them, but must charge himself with their care and protection. At any time during the campaign should improper persons be found with the column the general commanding directs they be at once removed from the command.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Generals Hazen, J. E. Smith, and Corse.)

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Camp near Peay's Ferry, S. C., February 22, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that at 6.30 o'clock this morning I received orders to march and at once started on the road toward Mickles' Ferry, as directed. Turning at Harrison's to the left, I sent forward two regiments to the ferry for the purpose of making the demonstration ordered. No evidence of the enemy was found at the ferry. Continuing on the road toward Peay's Ferry, I arrived in its vicinity at 4 p. m., going into temporary camp with my troops, where I am at present awaiting orders. My headquarters are at Peay's plantation.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., February 22, 1865.

Capt. FRED. H. WILSON,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Division, 15th Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: In compliance with your request, I have the honor to forward the following statement of the number of soldiers captured during the night of the fire at Columbia, S. C., by this brigade: Fifteenth Army Corps, 136 enlisted men; Seventeenth Army Corps, 260 enlisted men; total, 396.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, &c.,

W. B. WOODS,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Liberty Hill, S. C., February 22, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to state that until the reception of Special Orders, No. 53, of this date, from headquarters Fifteenth Army Corps, I had supposed the mounting of foragers authorized, if not in orders, at least from custom and necessity. Upon this supposition I had directed my brigade commanders to mount about 5 per cent. of their command for the purpose of gathering food. They had done this at no little trouble and had just reported that they could subsist their brigades with but little assistance from the commissary of subsistence. This cannot be done without mounting the foragers, and as our main supplies must be derived this way, I would most respectfully call especial attention to this subject. Late orders regulating issues from the wagons make it necessary for each division of the army to procure from the country about 7,000 pounds of food daily, which amounts do not exist along the immediate lines of march, but must be procured from points more or less remote along the flanks. It is as much as footmen can do to make long marches along the straight line of the road. I have given the subject of foraging my closest attention since it was adopted as our means of subsisting the army, and have at no time permitted more than the minimum number necessary to perform

the duty to be mounted, and unless they are so authorized or mount themselves without authority this command cannot be properly fed. This is corroborated by all my brigade commanders, who, with myself, desire only the best interests of the service. On the late campaign in Georgia I found no difficulty in supplying my command and furnished 22,000 rations to needy troops, but at no time had a less per cent. than 5 of my men mounted and never had any of them dismounted. Should this arrangement be broken up my supplies will fall short of absolute necessity.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Liberty Hill, S. C., February 22, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that this division broke camp at 6.30 this morning, marching to the Wateree River (Peay's Ferry), making that point at 11 a. m., and after waiting till 3.30 p. m. it crossed the pontoon bridge and marched to this point, making it at about sunset. My headquarters are on the south side of the road, near the crossing of Singleton Creek.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Peay's Ferry, S. C., February 22, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command broke camp at Harrison's Cross-Roads at 7 o'clock this a. m., and marched via Poplar Springs to Peay's Ferry, crossing the Wateree River after dark and encamping with reference to the comfort of the troops near the river at 8.30 p. m. The rear of the command did not arrive in camp until 11.30 p. m., the passage of the column being frequently interrupted for the purpose of repairing the bridge. Headquarters are on the bank of the river, south of the main road; distance marched, eleven miles.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Wateree Creek, S. C., February 22, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the movements of my command this day: I broke camp at 8 a. m. and moved upon the Rocky Mount road via Poplar Springs and the intersection of the Carlyle Court-House, Winnsborough, and Rocky Mount roads, taking the right-hand and direct road to Peay's Ferry and the Wateree

River, near which I have placed my command in bivouac, having marched ten miles. One hundred and fifty bales of cotton were burned by my orders during the day.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

CIRCULAR } HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 5. } *In the Field, near Wateree River, S. C., February 22, 1865.*

At an early hour to-morrow, the 23d instant, this command will be stripped of all horses and mules not allowed by existing orders and regulations, by orders from corps headquarters; and the trains of this division, especially the ordnance, are much in need of mules to haul them, the march during the past few days having used up many of the animals. It is therefore ordered that all surplus animals in this division, including those used by forage details, be turned over to Capt. H. R. Benjamin, acting assistant quartermaster, before marching to-morrow morning. After crossing the river a new system of foraging will be inaugurated and twenty animals furnished to each brigade to mount details for that purpose from the quartermaster's department. Officers of the inspector-general's department will report any officer who attempts to avoid compliance with this order.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

LOUIS H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Wateree River, S. C., February 22, 1865.

Major BURKHARDT,
Commanding Twenty-ninth Missouri Mounted Infantry:

MAJOR: I am directed by the general commanding to instruct you to move your command in advance of the leading division, which will break camp at 6.30 o'clock. You will please reconnoiter for a road from Liberty Hill to Flat Rock Post-Office via either Russell Place or Red Hill Post-Office, and will start your parties at a sufficiently early hour to accomplish some good.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 49. } *Near Poplar Springs Post-Office, February 22, 1865.*

The command will move forward on the direct road to-morrow and cross the Wateree at Peay's Ferry.

The Fourth Division, Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith commanding, will have the advance and will move at 7 a. m.

The First Regiment Michigan Engineers, Col. J. B. Yates commanding, with their tool wagons, will follow the train of the Fourth Division.

The First Division, Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower commanding, will follow the engineer regiment and will be prepared to move at 8 o'clock.

The Third Division, Brig. Gen. M. F. Force commanding, will follow the First Division and will be prepared to move at 9 o'clock.

The train of the First Michigan Engineers will follow the train of the First Division.

The train of these headquarters will follow the ordnance wagons of the rear brigade of the Fourth Division.

The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will move forward on the direct road to Peay's Ferry at 6.30 a. m.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 22, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding instructs me to direct you to move your troops on the left of your train to-morrow, also not to let any foragers go out until we cross the river, and to dismount all unauthorized parties at the bridge. After crossing the river a brigade from your command will wait until the bridge is taken up, when they will move forward, covering it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 16. } HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Douglass' House, February 22, 1865.*

The First and Third Divisions of the corps will move to-morrow as follows:

General Carlin will march at 6 a. m. upon the direct road toward Gladden's Grove Post-Office. Should he before reaching that place discover any good road leading more directly to Rocky Mount Post-Office via Gladden's Grove [*sic*].

General Baird, marching at 6.30 a. m., will follow General Carlin.

Corps headquarters will move between the two divisions.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. MCCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 16. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS, *Wateree Church, S. C., February 22, 1865.*

This command will march to-morrow toward Rocky Mount Post-Office, starting at 6.30 a. m. Order of brigades: Second, Third, First.

The train will march in rear of the leading brigade.

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By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary:

W. T. FORBES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY COMMAND, ARMY OF INVASION,
Douglass' House, near Black Stocks Station, February 22, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON, *A. A. G., Military Division of the Mississippi:*

MAJOR: I am now encamped at Springville [Springwell], on railroad, and across to J. Y. Mills' house, on Little Rocky Creek. My advance has been to within five miles of Chesterville. A portion of Wheeler's cavalry is at that point, but he and Hampton are moving toward Landsford. General Carlin encamps to-night at Youngsville. I will move at an early hour for the pontoon, and my first brigade (General Atkins) will be at the river ready to cross at 3 p. m. to-morrow. By rapid marching I can reach Lancaster before the half of the rebel cavalry can reach that point. I think, however, they are marching for Charlotte. Cheatham has not yet crossed Broad River; was making preparations to do so to-day. The bridges you wished destroyed were all burned by Captain Northrop of my staff. An infantry lieutenant and seven men were murdered yesterday by the Eighth Texas Cavalry after they had surrendered. We found their bodies all together and mutilated, with paper on their breasts, saying, "Death to foragers." Eighteen of my men were killed yesterday and some had their throats cut. There is no doubt about this, general, and I have sent Wheeler word that I intend to hang eighteen of his men, and if the cowardly act is repeated, will burn every house along my line of march, and that can be reached by my scouting parties. I have a number of prisoners, and shall take a fearful revenge. My people were deliberately murdered and by a scouting party of 300 men commanded by a lieutenant-colonel. I will try and see the general-in-chief at the bridge.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General.

FLAG-STEAMER PHILADELPHIA,
Off Charleston, S. C., February 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE, *Comdg. Department of the South:*

GENERAL: I am just in receipt of your communication of to-day,* stating that you are about to move a force toward the Santee River, and asking if I could send some gun-boats on a reconnaissance in that river. In reply, I am able to inform you that with a view to some communication with General Sherman I had already placed two gun-boats inside the harbor of Georgetown, and have ordered other vessels there, to be in readiness for any movement that might be of use to General Sherman. The Santee has but little depth at its bar, and I am therefore obliged to send such vessels as can enter. The Geranium, a tug of about six or seven feet draft, was sent there, with two howitzer launches, to pioneer the way for the McDonough, and to examine the channel as well as the road to Georgetown. I just learn that the Geranium finds it too rough, and is now at Georgetown awaiting an opportunity to get into the Santee, but she will no doubt obey the orders as soon as it is possible to do so. Am I to understand that the gun-boats are to accompany the troops from this place to Georgetown or after they reach that place? Orders for either will be given if you will please to let me know what you desire.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. DAHLGREN,
Rear-Admiral, Commanding South Atlantic Blockading Squadron.

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*See 21st, p. 525.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 22, 1865.

Brig. Gen. JOHN P. HATCH,
Commanding Coast Division, Department of the South:

GENERAL: I am most anxious that you should reach here, so that I can put Colonel Van Wyck's brigade under the control of General Schimmelfennig. The One hundred and fifty-seventh New York Regiment, if not a part of Van Wyck's brigade, must be sent with it. If the reports from Georgetown be confirmed, a very small force will suffice for that diversion, and General Schimmelfennig will make it. I shall want the balance of your command very soon for operations elsewhere, and want them in good condition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 22, 1865.

Memorandum for Brig. Gen. A. Schimmelfennig:

First. Communication should be opened with General Hatch. Second. Colonel Van Wyck's brigade should be placed on the Northeastern Railroad without delay. Third. Colonel Brown's regiment (One hundred and fifty-seventh New York Volunteers) to make a diversion to Georgetown; batteries at that place to be dismantled. Fourth. If practicable, Colonel Brown's force should then be sent up the Santee to the railroad bridge, to join General Potter; ascertain the practicability from the navy. Fifth. Rations arriving from Hilton Head need not be unloaded.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 22, 1865.

Brig. Gen. A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Commanding Northern District, Department of the South:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to state that Admiral Dahlgren will furnish the necessary co-operation for the Georgetown expedition, and you are therefore requested to communicate with him. The expedition must get off as soon as possible. If you desire any action upon any matters of especial importance, please send word to the major-general commanding, on board steamer Diamond, any time this evening. The major-general commanding directs that your provost-marshal be ordered to allow no citizen to land here without a pass from proper authority.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 22, 1865.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: I have the satisfaction of announcing the capture of Wilmington. On the 19th, after the capture of Fort Anderson, we found the enemy in position behind Town Creek, and opposite to its mouth, on the east side of the river. During the night I transferred General Ames' division, which had been operating with General Cox against Fort Anderson, to the east bank, to rejoin General Terry. On the 20th General Terry pushed the enemy back to a point about four miles from Wilmington, where he appeared in force behind strong intrenchments. General Terry's loss was about 50 men killed and wounded. General Cox crossed Town Creek by the use of a single flat-boat, attacked and drove the enemy in confusion from the field, capturing 375 prisoners and 2 pieces of artillery. Yesterday the enemy concentrated nearly his entire force against General Terry and prevented any farther advance. General Cox pushed forward to the crossing of Brunswick River and secured possession of the main portion of a pontoon bridge, which the enemy fired on his approach. By the use of the boats General Cox put some men on Eagle Island and threatened to cross the river above Wilmington. The enemy at once set fire to his military and naval stores, steamers, boats, cotton, &c., and commenced his retreat at dark. Our troops entered the city soon after daylight this morning. The enemy has gone toward Goldsborough, and General Terry is in pursuit. Our loss in killed and wounded since we left Fort Fisher is probably only about 200 men. That of the enemy is not much larger in killed and wounded, but we have taken about 800 prisoners, besides a large number of stragglers and deserters. A large amount of heavy artillery and a few field pieces have fallen into our hands. The admiral is now clearing away the obstructions in the river, and we hope to get the transports up to-day.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 23D ARMY CORPS,
No. 14. } *Wilmington, N. C., February 22, 1865.*

I. Lieut. Col. William J. Jordan, One hundred and fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, is hereby assigned to duty as provost-marshal of Wilmington during the temporary stay of this division, and will issue such orders and regulations for the establishment of good order and discipline in this vicinity as he may deem necessary.

II. During the temporary stay of this division at Wilmington the One hundred and fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry is assigned to duty as provost guard.

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By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Right Bank Brunswick River, February 22, 1865.

Brevet Brigadier-General HENDERSON, *Comdg. Third Brigade:*

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you move your brigade to this place to-night or to-morrow morning, as you may prefer. On arriving here you will put the One hundred and twelfth Illinois in position on this bank of the Brunswick River, as guard to the bridge, and have them construct works for its protection. The other regiments you will please report with to these headquarters in Wilmington. On leaving your present position you will relieve the guards at Town Creek bridge and bring them with you to their command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEO. COX,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Near Wilmington, N. C., February 22, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. AMES,
Commanding Second Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires that you will recall the brigade ordered to be sent to the plank road, and follow General Paine with your whole command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEW YORK, *February 22, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

You wished me some time ago to see to the old Sumter flag. I did see. It is in the vault of the Bank of Commerce. Can I send it back and have it posted in its old place?

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 23, 1865—3 p. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War, Washington:*

Deserters to-day report Sherman in Charlotte. The Richmond papers of to-day, true to their word of yesterday, give no news.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
February 23, 1865.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Headquarters Armies of the United States, City Point:

The Richmond Examiner of this morning has the following:

We learned officially at a late hour last night that General Joseph E. Johnston was yesterday ordered by the Government to report to General Lee for duty. It is believed that General Johnston will be immediately appointed to command the army in front of Sherman.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 23, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

I see by the papers that an effort is being made to induce the President to appoint General Butler provost-marshal of Charleston and South Carolina. I cannot believe this will be done, but write to respectfully enter my protest. There are many reasons which I might give why General Butler should not be placed on duty again, but I think two of them are sufficient—his order to his troops on being relieved from duty, and his Lowell speech.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Rocky Mount, February 23, 1865—10 a. m.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: I have just been down to the bridge. It will take all of to-day and to-morrow to get this wing across and out. You may go ahead, but keep communication with me. I expect Kilpatrick here this p. m. and will send him well to the left. He reports that two of his foraging parties were murdered by the enemy after capture and labeled, "Death to all foragers." Now it is clearly our war right to subsist our army on the enemy. Napoleon always did it, but could avail himself of the civil powers he found in existence to collect forage and provisions by regular impressments. We cannot do that here, and I contend if the enemy fails to defend his country we may rightfully appropriate what we want. If our foragers act under mine, yours, or other proper orders they must be protected. I have ordered Kilpatrick to select of his prisoners man for man, shoot them, and leave them by the roadside labeled, so that our enemy will see that for every man he executes he takes the life of one of his own. I want the foragers, however, to be kept within reasonable bounds for the sake of discipline. I will not protect them when they enter dwellings and commit wanton waste, such as woman's apparel, jewelry, and such things as are not needed by our army; but they may destroy cotton or tobacco, because these are assumed by the rebel Government to belong to it, and are used as a valuable source of revenue. Nor will I consent to our enemy taking the lives of our men on their judgment. They have lost all title to property, and can lose nothing not already forfeited; but we should punish for a departure from our orders, and if the people resist our foragers I will not deem it wrong, but the Confederate army must not be supposed the champion of any people. I lay down these general rules and wish you to be governed by them. If any of your foragers are murdered, take life for life, leaving a record of each case.

I am, with respect,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Red Hill Post-Office, February 23, 1865—12 m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

GENERAL: Captain Dayton's dispatch of 9 p. m. yesterday is just received. General Logan's head of column is already near Flat Rock.

General Blair has been directed to reach Russell Place with his head of column to-night. I have two bridges, a wagon bridge and foot bridge, across the river, and if it does not rain expect to get everything across before night. The roads I have marked out are for General Blair to move from Russell Place to Williams', near Copeland's, thence by country roads to Young's Bridge; for General Logan to move from Flat Rock to lower Williams' Cross-Roads, thence to Tillersville Post-Office. The two corps will then concentrate at Cheraw. I found a good road directly from Liberty Hill to Flat Rock. Two of General Logan's divisions are moving on a road a little farther south. There is a road also from Russell Place to Flat Rock, via an old mill, that is shorter than any laid down on the maps. My headquarters will be at this point to-night, viz, at Patterson's Cross-Roads, so as to be within easy communication with General Blair and General Logan.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Rocky Mount, February 23, 1865.

General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: Your note of to-day is received. I don't see as we can do better than follow the roads you have indicated, although they carry you too far south. Davis will cross to-morrow and get on the road from Lancaster to Cheraw via Chesterfield. Williams is now at Colonel Ballard's, but his trains are not yet across. Kilpatrick will cross at 7 p. m., move out five miles, and to-morrow move to Lancaster, and there await Davis' coming. I will accompany Williams, and expect to be about Hanging Rock to-morrow night, thence will find a road across to Chesterfield. I fear much the present rain will make the roads very bad. You will have better roads and should move slower. If circumstances warrant, you might send a small cavalry force into Camden and get more positive news of Charleston. It might save you being troubled by cavalry to burn the bridge. If you should calculate that you will reach Cheraw much in advance of us you may threaten Florence, or actually break the railroad near there, to divert attention from our real course.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 47.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Patterson's Cross-Roads, S. C., February 23, 1865.

The movement to-morrow will commence at 6.30 a. m. The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will move via the lower Williams' Cross-Roads to the cross-roads at West's. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will move by the country roads via Copeland's and Williams' Cross-Roads in the direction of Young's Bridge, making sufficient distance to enable the corps to reach that point the following day. Department headquarters will follow the leading division of the Fifteenth Army Corps.

One section of the bridge train will move by the direct road from Liberty Hill to Flat Rock Post-Office and follow the Fifteenth Army Corps; the other section will follow the Seventeenth Army Corps. A rear guard from each corps will follow the section of the bridge train.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[FEBRUARY 23, 1865.—For complimentary letter from Howard to Logan, see Part I, p. 241.]

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Flat Rock Church, S. C., February 23, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that I left my camp near Wateree River at 7 this morning, marching toward the ferry, crossing on the pontoon boats. I followed in rear of the Third Division on the same road, going into camp at 5 in the evening in the vicinity of Flat Rock Church. In obedience to your orders, I left one brigade of my division (the Third, Colonel Stone commanding) back at Red Hill, where it now is awaiting orders. The remaining two brigades are encamped on the Camden road, facing southeast. My headquarters are near the church.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Flat Rock Church, S. C., February 23, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. WOODS,
Commanding First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that the movement will be continued to-morrow on West's Cross-Roads, via the lower Williams' Cross-Roads, and that you will have the advance. You will please make your dispositions to move out at 6.30 a. m., on such roads as may be indicated in the morning, by one of the staff officers of the commanding general.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
White Oak Creek, S. C., February 23, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that my division passed out of camp yesterday at 12 m., reaching this point at 5 p. m. My headquarters are at the ——— plantation.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Flat Rock Church, S. C., February 23, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command broke camp at Peay's Ferry at 6. 30 o'clock this a. m. and marched in advance, via Liberty Hill on ——— road to Flat Rock Church, head of column arriving at 2 p. m.; distance marched, seventeen miles. The division is encamped in line, the First Brigade on the right of the Lancaster road fronting northeast; the Second Brigade on the left of same road, fronting north; artillery in rear of First Brigade. These headquarters are at Hunter's house.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Flat Rock Church, S. C., February 23, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. JOHN E. SMITH,
Commanding Third Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that the movement will be continued to-morrow on West's Cross-Roads via the lower Williams' Cross-Roads. You will please follow in rear of General Woods' command.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, White Oak Creek, S. C., February 23, 1865.

[Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:]

MAJOR: I have the honor to report as follows, in regard to the movements of my command during this day: I broke camp at 7 a. m., and crossing the Wateree River moved in rear of the Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, to Liberty Hill, and from thence to the right on the Camden road, a distance of three miles, where I passed to the left and pursued a field road to its intersection with another road, well traveled, and also designated as the Camden road, down which I moved as far as White Oak Creek, and placed my command in bivouac at 10 p. m., having marched fourteen miles, most of the distance after 2 p. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JOHN M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 24.

HDQRS. 4TH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near White Oak Creek,
February 23, 1865.

The troops of this division will march at 7.30 a. m. this instant, following the First Division, the movement to be on lower Williams' Cross-

Roads, southeast of Flat Rock Post-Office, in the following order, viz: The First Brigade in advance, followed by the Second Brigade (marching by the side of the trains as heretofore), and the Third Brigade in rear, with one regiment moving by the side of the supply train.

Trains to move in same order as on the 22d instant, following the First Brigade, the battery moving within this brigade.

The pioneer corps will take the advance, as usual.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Patterson's Cross-Roads, February 23, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Our headquarters are at this point. The Fifteenth Corps, instead of being at the place indicated in the order of march, will be near Flat Rock. The general wishes you to get one division as far as Russell Place if possible; the other divisions as far as Liberty Hill, as in case a rain should come on it will be very difficult to get over the road. There is a good road from Russell Place to Flat Rock Post-Office.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Patterson's Cross-Roads, February 23, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Your note by Colonel Hickenlooper is just received. I only wished you to get your head of column to Russell Place. You did have an independent road after getting to Liberty Hill, and your road is independent all the way to Young's Bridge. There was but one road that I could find between the bridge and Liberty Hill. To-morrow if you will make Williams' Cross-Roads, near Copeland's, I will be satisfied. Please take one section of the bridge train along with you and allow the other to come straight to Flat Rock. The roads are good after reaching the table-land; that is, good before the rain. There is no haste, as I find it will take all day to-morrow for the Left Wing to get across the Wateree. Headquarters to-morrow night will be at lower Williams' Cross-Roads.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 50. HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Liberty Hill, S. C., February 23, 1865.

The movement to-morrow will be via Russell Place and Copeland's in the direction of Young's Bridge.

The Fourth Division, Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith commanding, will move forward at 7 a. m.

The First Michigan Engineers, Col. J. B. Yates commanding, will follow the Fourth Division.

The First Division, Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower commanding, will move forward at 6 a. m., following the First Michigan Engineers.

The Third Division, Brig. Gen. M. F. Force commanding, will move forward at 6 a. m., following the First Division.

The train of the First Michigan Engineers will follow the First Division train.

If practicable the troops will move by the side of the train, keeping to the right.

Corps headquarters train will follow the headquarters train of the Fourth Division.

The section of the bridge train that moves with this corps will follow the train of the Third Division, and General Force will move two regiments in rear of it as rear guard.

The other section of the train will move after the Third Division train until it reaches Liberty Hill, where it will take the road to Flat Rock Post-Office and move with the Fifteenth Army Corps.

The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will be prepared to move at 6.30 a. m.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 44. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
Catawba River, S. C., February 23, 1865.

This command will move forward to-morrow at 6 a. m., in the following order, following First Division: First, First Brigade; second, Battery Fifteenth Ohio; third, Second Brigade. Ambulances and trains in usual order.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Rocky Mount Post-Office, S. C., February 23, 1865.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: The general-in-chief has directed General Kilpatrick, who is here with his command, to commence crossing at 7 p. m. to-night, and occupy the bridge until his command is entirely over. In the meantime he wishes you to push your train over as rapidly as possible, and as soon as the cavalry is over to resume the use of the bridge until your entire command is over.

I am, general, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Rocky Mount, February 23, 1865—9 p. m.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: General Kilpatrick is now waiting, and has been since 7 o'clock, to cross the bridge with his command. By direction of General Sherman a staff officer has stopped your train for use of General Kilpatrick.

I am, general, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Rocky Mount Post-Office, February 23, 1865.

Brevet Major-General DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you cross your command to-morrow over the Catawba River at this point and move to Dry Creek Post-Office. You can probably find a road from near Tillman's directly across to the post-office. On the following day (the 25th) he wishes you to move to Hickory Head. In the absence of further orders you will continue the march to Chesterfield Court-House by the road leading through Blakeny's and Mount Croghan. The general hopes both corps will reach near Chesterfield Court-House on the night of the 27th.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Colonel Ballard's Farm, S. C., February 23, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow toward Chesterfield, as follows: First Division at 6.30 a. m., Third Division at 8 a. m., Second Division at 9 a. m. The troops of the First Division will march unencumbered in the advance. General Geary will detail three regiments as rear guard. One battery of artillery will follow General Jackson's advanced brigade; one section will accompany the rear guard. The balance of the artillery will follow the First Division troops. General Ward will dispose of his troops so as to cover the trains of his own and General Jackson's divisions. The artillery ammunition train will to-morrow march in rear of the trains of the First Division.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Rocky Mount, S. C., February 23, 1865.

Major-General KILPATRICK,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Yours of last night is received and your dispositions of matters are all right. The bridge is laid and troops are crossing. I am anxious to get the wagons across and up on high ground before the rain

comes. I wish you would keep your cavalry on roads to the north of the direct one by Gladden's Grove, as that will be needed all day for infantry and wagons. You shall have the bridge as fast as your brigades come. I regret the matter you report, that eighteen of your men have been murdered after surrender, and marked that the enemy intended to kill all foragers. It leaves no alternative; you must retaliate man for man and mark them in like manner. Let it be done at once. We have a perfect war right to the products of the country we overrun, and may collect them by foragers or otherwise. Let the whole people know that the war is now against them, because their armies flee before us and do not defend their country or its frontier as they should. It is petty nonsense for Wheeler and Beauregard and such vain heroes to talk of our warring against women and children. If they claim to be men they should defend their women and children and prevent us reaching their homes. Instead of maintaining their armies let them turn their attention to their families, or we will follow them to the death. They should know that we will use the produce of the country as we please. I want the foragers to be regulated and systematized so as not to degenerate into common robbers, but foragers, as such, to collect corn, bacon, beef, and such other products as we need, are as much entitled to our protection as our skirmishers and flankers. You will, therefore, at once shoot and leave by the roadside an equal number of their prisoners, and append a label to their bodies stating that man for man shall be killed for every one of our men they kill. If our foragers commit excesses punish them yourself, but never let an enemy judge between our men and the law. For my part I want the people of the South to realize the fact that they shall not dictate laws of war or peace to us. If there is to be any dictation we want our full share.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 24. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, *Hilton Head, S. C., February 23, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. James F. Hall, First New York Volunteer Engineers, having been, on account of receiving leave of absence, temporarily relieved as provost-marshal-general of this department in General Orders, No. 11, current series, from these headquarters, and having since been promoted to be colonel of his regiment now serving in the Department of Virginia, will turn over all records and property pertaining to the office of provost-marshal-general, which he may have in his possession to his successor, Lieut. Col. Stewart L. Woodford, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers, and proceed to the headquarters of his regiment.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 23, 1865.

Captain BARKER,
Commanding Fort Strong, Morris Island, S. C.:

You are hereby placed in command of Morris Island, S. C. You will see that the public property is preserved, and that no camps are

injured or meddled with. The latter will be needed immediately as rendezvous for the organization of colored regiments.

By order of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig:

J. W. DICKINSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, *February 23, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Cape Fear River, N. C.:

GENERAL: The Secretary of War directs me to say that he is informed that you have taken for your headquarters the hospital boat, the Spaulding. If so, your action is disapproved, and you will immediately return the vessel to the Medical Department. He also directs me to say that no Government vessel will be diverted from its proper business and used as the headquarters of any officer without the permission of the War Department, and that an application for such use must state the circumstances rendering it necessary, and showing that headquarters cannot be established on shore.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, February 23, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Dept. of North Carolina, off Fort Fisher, N. C.:

SIR: The Secretary of War directs me to inform you that your occupation of the hospital transport S. R. Spaulding for your headquarters is in violation of General Orders, No. 18, copy herewith inclosed,* and is disapproved by him. The Secretary directs that you immediately give up the steamer to the control of the Medical Department again, and that you conform to the terms of the general order referred to.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 24, 1865—11 a. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

I would respectfully recommend the appointment of Schofield as brigadier-general in the regular army. He ought to have had it from the battle of Franklin.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See February 8, p. 342.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, February 24, 1865.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The Chief of Ordnance sent yesterday an ordnance officer to Cape Fear River to secure the captured ordnance and ordnance stores. I have made the appointment of Schofield brigadier-general in regular army.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Savannah, Ga., February 24, 1865.

His Excellency J. Y. SMITH,
Governor of the State of Rhode Island:

GOVERNOR: In the absence of Major-General Sherman, commanding in the field, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt at these headquarters of the resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island commendatory of the conduct and services of the general and the officers and men under his command. The resolutions and letter of transmittal will be forwarded to the general as soon as communication is opened to him.

I have the honor to be, Your Excellency's most obedient servant,
R. M. SAWYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, February 24, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry Forces, C. S. Army:

GENERAL: It is officially reported to me that our foraging parties are murdered after capture and labeled "Death to all foragers." One instance of a lieutenant and seven men near Chesterville, and another of twenty "near a ravine eighty rods from the main road" about three miles from Feasterville. I have ordered a similar number of prisoners in our hands to be disposed of in like manner. I hold about 1,000 prisoners captured in various ways, and can stand it as long as you; but I hardly think these murders are committed with your knowledge, and would suggest that you give notice to the people at large that every life taken by them simply results in the death of one of your Confederates. Of course you cannot question my right to "forage on the country." It is a war right as old as history. The manner of exercising it varies with circumstances, and if the civil authorities will supply my requisitions I will forbid all foraging. But I find no civil authorities who can respond to calls for forage or provisions, therefore must collect directly of the people. I have no doubt this is the occasion of much misbehavior on the part of our men, but I cannot permit an enemy to judge or punish with wholesale murder. Personally I regret the bitter feelings engendered by this war, but they were to be expected, and I simply allege that those who struck the first blow and made war inevitable ought not, in fairness, to reproach us for the natural consequences. I merely assert our war right to forage and my resolve to protect my foragers to the extent of life for life.

I am, with respect, your obedient servant,
W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, U. S. Army.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, One mile North of Warrenton's,
Fifteen South of Lancaster, February 24, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD, *Commanding Right Wing:*

GENERAL: Jeff. Davis is not yet across, and the roads are so very bad that I think it will take him all day and to-morrow to get well over and up on high ground. The Twentieth Corps is here. We can see the Seventeenth passing eastward, about one mile south. Davis is ordered to take roads that will bring him into the direct road from Lancaster to Chesterfield, and the Twentieth will move by Hanging Rock, and thence by roads to the south of Davis. Unless the rains cease we will have a hard time. Don't push too fast, but gather as much food as you can en route. I think you could send into Camden with safety, but there is no object, but when you get to Lynch's Creek you might pass the Ninth Illinois Cavalry* across and push them toward Florence with orders to break two or three bridges about Timmonsville and then to rejoin you at Cheraw. I don't believe there is any cavalry of the enemy down there, and ours might pick up some good horses. The only object would be to prevent the shipment by cars of the garrison of Charleston to Fayetteville or Wilmington to oppose us. If at the time you suppose all of the Charleston garrison is east of Florence the expedition would not be advisable. I believe Foster is in possession of Charleston, because of the general belief to that effect and the reports of the negroes you sent me. I have also just released a prisoner captured yesterday by the Twentieth Corps, who was a bright lad sixteen years old, son of Richard Bacot, who was at West Point with me, and whom I knew well at Charleston. This boy left Charleston last Thursday at 12 m., at which time he says our troops had been shelling the city for twenty-four hours from James Island. He was a hospital attendant and was sent along with the sick from the hospitals to Florence, thence to be conveyed to the hospital at Cheraw. He said the orders for evacuation had been published, and the garrisons were to be rendezvoused along the Florence road at Porcher's and Bonneau's. He said they were removing the powder and ammunition, but would leave the heavy guns. The gun-boats were to be blown up. He says the first orders were to go to Columbia, but these were changed. If you can possibly employ a negro to go through to Charleston, make a cipher dispatch telling our general position and destination and an order of liberal payment. I think you will have good roads, and that there is no danger in our spreading out this side of Cheraw, thence to Fayetteville roads favor us as also from Fayetteville to our destination. At both Cheraw and Fayetteville are bridges that we can secure by holding the towns responsible. We find no enemy hereabouts, and suppose them all to be about Charlotte and Salisbury. Kilpatrick must now be at Lancaster; he crossed last night and was off this morning.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 48.

HDQRS. DEPT. AND ARMY OF THE TENN.,
Near Williams' Cross-Roads, S. C.,
February 24, 1865.

* * * * * * *

II. Capt. William Duncan, Company K, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry, will, with his command and that of Capt. John L. King, commanding

*Mounted infantry.

Fourth Independent Company Ohio Cavalry, and as many men as can be furnished from the signal corps, scout in the direction of Camden, and, if practicable, enter the city and destroy the depot and other railroad property and whatever army supplies may be found.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Williams' Cross-Roads, S. C., February 24, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that during to-morrow you close up your command ready to move forward the next day, and that you send your mounted infantry forward to secure and hold the bridge at Tillersville until the arrival of the column at that point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near West's Cross-Roads, S. C., February 24, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that in accordance with orders, I broke camp near Flat Rock Church at 7 a. m., marching by way of McDowell's and Young's to my present camp at West's Cross-Roads, making a distance of fifteen miles over the heaviest roads. I was obliged to do a great deal of corduroying, and over one stream on the line of march to make a bridge some fifty feet in length. The Third Brigade of my division is still back at Red Hill. The commanding officer has just sent me word that he will probably not move to-day, as at 4 a. m. the pontoon boats had not been taken up. I saw no evidence of the enemy to-day. My troops are encamped looking eastward, my headquarters being near to the cross-roads.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Hughes' Mills, S. C., February 24, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report that this division, preceded by the Fourth, arrived here at 4 p. m., which is as near West's as the command can well be put to-night. I can find no one who knows anything about West's. This is on the direct Camden and Cheraw road, six miles from the former place and fourteen from the crossing of Lynch's Creek at Tiller's. The roads to-day have been very good, notwithstanding the rain; have been plain, and I have kept as far to the left as I could find roads. My right flank brushed Camden, one regiment passing through it. The road to Lynch's Creek is direct and good.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near West's Cross-Roads, S. C., February 24, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command broke camp at 7 o'clock this a. m. and marched via Flat Rock Post-Office to near West's Cross-Roads. The division is encamped in line, fronting north and northeast, covering neighborhood roads. These headquarters are on West's plantation; distance marched, sixteen miles.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Hughes' Mills, S. C., February 24, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the movements of my division this instant:

I broke camp at 7.30 a. m., and moving in advance of the Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, crossed White Oak Creek and continued on the Camden road, via Rock Spring Church, and until crossing Saunders' Creek, when, pursuant to orders from Major-General Hazen, I directed my column on a field road to the left, via Kirkwood's, and within one mile and a half of Camden. Bearing well to the left, I continued on this road until striking the Cheraw and Camden road, upon which I moved as far as Hughes' Mills on Big Pine Tree Creek, crossing which I placed my command in bivouac. After crossing Saunders' Creek, by consent of General Hazen, I sent one regiment (Twelfth Illinois Volunteers) and four companies of another (Sixty-sixth Illinois Volunteers) into Camden, with proper instructions as to the destruction of Government property, stores, &c. This detachment of my division, under Colonel Adams, met the enemy's cavalry in light force and drove them into and through the city, wounding two men and capturing several prisoners. The expedition burned 1,000 bales of cotton, the depot buildings, and a large building filled with flour and meal (sacked), several hogsheads of sugar and rice, besides a flouring mill filled with corn and wheat; also cut the telegraph wires, recaptured and released seven men of the Second Division who were picked up by the enemy while foraging. About sixteen prisoners, including a captain and commissary of subsistence, were picked up by my command in and around Camden while passing. My command has marched a distance of twenty miles over heavy roads.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
Flat Rock Post-Office, S. C., February 24, 1865.

The division will move at 7.30 a. m. in following order: Second, Third, and First Brigades, the central brigade marching by the side of the trains as usual; two regiments of the advance brigade in rear of

battery; trains in same order as heretofore, one regiment of the rear brigade being thrown forward by the side of trains. Command to move on direct Camden road.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 25.

HDQRS. 4TH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Hughes' Mills,
February 24, 1865.

* * * * * * *

II. The troops of this division will be in readiness to march at 7.30 a. m. to-morrow, the 25th instant, in the following order:

Third, First, and Second Brigades guarding trains, according to instructions heretofore given. Trains in same order as the 24th instant, battery to move within the advance brigade. The pioneer corps in advance as usual.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
West's Cross-Roads, S. C., February 24, 1865.

Major BURKHARDT,
Commanding Twenty-ninth Missouri Infantry:

MAJOR: I am directed by the general commanding to instruct you to move with your entire command at daylight to-morrow morning on the bridge crossing Lynch's Creek, at or near Tillersville Post-Office, on the Camden and Cheraw road, and endeavor to save the same. Should you be successful, hold the bridge and report at once the result of your march to these headquarters in order that a force of infantry may be sent to the bridge.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., February 24, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: My Fourth Division is encamped between Patterson's and Flat Rock, five miles from Flat Rock. The First Division is at Patterson's. The Third Division will encamp at Russell Place to-night. I sent back orders for them to take the direct road from Liberty Hill to Flat Rock, but through some misunderstanding they followed the First Division.

Respectfully,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Russell Place, February 24, 1865—9.45 a. m.

Maj. Gen. O. O. HOWARD, *Comdg. Army of the Tennessee:*

DEAR GENERAL: The advance of Seventeenth Corps is back about two miles and coming up as rapidly as possible. At 7 this a. m. the rear of Seventeenth Corps, General Force's division, was still at the pontoon bridge, and the advance of Mower's division was just passing through Liberty Hill. The road is very heavy and getting worse all the time and will have to be corduroyed nearly all the way. There is a road running direct from this place to Flat Rock Church, but it is represented as being very swampy. I have sent forward to have it examined. If practicable, General Blair will take it; if not, will move south on the Camden road and move by the route indicated last night. It is only two miles farther. General Blair will have his head of column to-night at Flat Rock and will try and get his rear as far as Russell Place. The other division will be at some point between the two. The Twentieth Corps struck into our road about three miles west from Russell Place. They were looking for a road to Hanging Rock and came into ours. They will be compelled to countermarch some three miles and a half or wait until the rear of the Seventeenth Corps passes, in which latter case they won't march far to-day. General Jackson, who has the advance, seemed surprised to find us moving on Russell Place. I saw Asmussen and he informed me the Twentieth Corps was ordered to move to Chesterfield, via Hanging Rock and Jefferson Post-Office. I will accompany General Blair until his head of column reaches Flat Rock and will then join you. I am inclined to think the bridge train will not get farther than Patterson's Cross-Roads to-night. It will have some trouble in getting over the branch of Beaver Creek. I found it very much swollen. The advance of Seventeenth Corps was not as far back as reported. It is now coming up to Russell Place. It will mass here for a short time till we decide which road to take to Flat Rock Church.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. E. STRONG,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

P. S.—General Force was directed to move at 6 o'clock, but was waiting for the pontoniers to take up the bridge, which they had just commenced to do at 7 o'clock.

Respectfully,

WM. E. STRONG,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

10.45 A. M.

P. S.—We have just learned that the road to Flat Rock is practicable and we will move by that road. General Blair will try and push Giles Smith to Williams' Cross-Roads, and Mower to Flat Rock. The Twentieth Corps has encamped at the intersection of the road referred to. Will wait till our column passes.

WM. E. STRONG.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Williams' Cross-Roads, S. C., February 24, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR, *Comdg. Seventeenth Army Corps:*

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you proceed by the most direct route to Young's Bridge, reaching that point by the

26th instant. Our headquarters are at Young's house, near the cross-roads. General Logan's corps will close up in this vicinity and move forward to Tillersville on the 26th instant.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 51. } *Near Flat Rock, S. C., February 24, 1865.*

The following are the orders for to-morrow:

Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will move forward on the Flat Rock road at 7 a. m.

Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will move at 6 a. m., following the route taken by the Fourth Division.

Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will move forward at 6 o'clock and march as far as practicable. The bridge train will move as General Force may direct.

The First Michigan Engineers will move next after the troops of the Fourth Division with tool wagons and ambulances. Their train will follow the First Division.

The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will move forward at 6.30 a. m.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Wateree River, S. C., February 24, 1865—7 a. m.

Capt. C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Seventeenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that my command is still awaiting the crossing of the pontoon train and taking up of the bridge. Will move immediately after the latter is completed. Bridge was broken twice in the night by wagons going into the river—one of the First Michigan Engineer supply train and one of my supply train.

I am, captain, very truly yours,

M. F. FORCE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 24, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding instructs me to direct you to move forward at 6 a. m., following the other divisions to Flat Rock Post-Office. Order the pontoon train to move with you and place two regiments as rear guard. You can send your foragers ahead.

Very respectfully,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 45. } *Russell Place, S. C., February 24, 1865.*

This command will move forward to-morrow at 7 a. m. in the following order: First, Second Brigade; second, Battery Fifteenth Ohio; third, First Brigade; ambulances and trains in usual order.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, S. C., February 24, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: General Geary, with his train, is up. General Davis will be able to cross one division with its train to-night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Rocky Mount Post-Office, February 24, 1865.

Brig. Gen. J. D. MORGAN,
Commanding Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you cross the trains of the corps immediately in the rear of the remainder of the trains of the Twentieth Corps (and of the cavalry), which are now crossing, and park the trains near Captain Perry's, encamping your troops at the forks of the road beyond, near Dry Creek. It is the general's intention to relieve you of the care of the trains at that point.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. McCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Hilliard's Farm, S. C., February 24, 1865.

This command will move to-morrow to Hanging Rock as follows: Third Division at 6.30 a. m.; Second Division at 7 a. m.; First Division at 9 a. m. The troops of the Third Division will march unencumbered in the advance. General Geary will dispose of his troops so as to cover his own and the train in advance of his. One battery of artillery will follow the advanced brigade, one section march with the rear guard, the balance following the troops of the Third Division. The artillery ammunition train will follow the train of the Third Division. Division commanders, when their commands are marching with the train, will use the troops in repairing the roads. General Jackson will detail three regiments as a rear guard.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY COMMAND, ARMY OF INVASION,
Camp Creek, on Road to Hunter's Store, S. C., February 24, 1865.

[General SHERMAN:]

GENERAL: I reached my present camp at daylight. My last brigade, Colonel Jordan's, will not get into camp before 9 a.m. This road is horrible. If the Fourteenth Corps intends to move on it the greater part will have to be corduroyed as far as Camp Creek. I did not get the bridge last night till 10.30 p. m. General Williams must have known that I was to have the bridge at 7 p. m., when he ordered General Geary (who had already gone into camp) forward at 6 p. m. I am sorry to trouble you with such matters, but I know of no other way of preventing a similar occurrence in the future. Yesterday five of my people, detailed to forage for my wounded in ambulances with Twentieth Corps were arrested by a provost-marshal of that corps and strapped to a tree and there kept till the corps marched by, with inscriptions on their breasts "House-breakers." I do not recognize General Williams' right to punish my people or disgrace them. I can and will do all the punishment myself. If I liked, I could retaliate every hour. Stragglers and foraging parties of the Twentieth Corps were here yesterday, eight miles from their command, committing acts most disgraceful. This house was pillaged at 10 a. m. yesterday by men of the Twentieth Army Corps. General Williams will have all he can do to maintain discipline in his own command. I have allowed foragers from the Left Wing to pass through my lines, and even assisted them. Yesterday a detail sent out by Major Dunbar, my quartermaster, captured ten mules and four horses for his wagon train. An officer of the Twentieth Army Corps arrested them and took mules and horses away. I shall now allow no foraging parties to pass through or out of my lines, and I shall dismount and seize all horses ridden by infantrymen who enter my column. This I shall continue to do, unless otherwise ordered by you or until my people are treated with that respect and courtesy I feel their conduct and services demand. I also most respectfully call your attention to the fact that foraging parties and stragglers from Twentieth Army Corps burned sufficient forage on this road to have fed my entire command. I had occasion to mention this same fact to General Slocum some days since. I shall rest here till 1 p. m., when I will move slowly forward, as I feel confident that General Davis can move but a short distance to-day. Hampton is at Lancaster and a small portion of Wheeler's cavalry. The country is rich and full of forage. Until the rain is over, unless the roads are better than this one, our progress must be very slow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Cavalry, Army of Georgia.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY COMMAND,
[*February 24, 1865.*]

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that Private Charles Wright, Ninth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, General Atkins' headquarters, came in last evening from scout near Feasterville, below and west of Chesterville. He reports having found twenty-one of our infantrymen in a ravine, about eighty rods from the main road and about three miles from Feasterville, with their throats cut and stripped of their clothing. The

evidence that the enemy has resolved upon murdering our men is fast accumulating. Another report has just come in that a soldier belonging to the Ninety-second Illinois Mounted Infantry was found hung to the limb of a tree near the roadside. I shall retaliate as far as my own people are concerned, as you have directed. Major-General Wade Hampton is now at Lancaster. I can forward for you any communication to or through him to any higher rebel authorities you may desire regarding the facts mentioned.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

IN THE FIELD, *February 24, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. F. A. JONES,
Commanding Eighth Indiana Cavalry:

SIR: I was ordered to take twenty-five men on the 22d instant and proceed to the Abbeville Railroad and destroy all bridges I could find from Black Buck Creek to Broad River. I struck the railroad at Black Creek bridge, which I burned, it being a trestle-work of about 120 yards in length. I then moved up the river one mile and burned a gristmill and two warehouses, which contained 1,500 bushels of shelled corn in sacks and 100 bushels of wheat, 75 sacks of flour, 19 barrels of molasses, 6 bales of cotton, 10 bales of hay, and a lot of tools, such as axes, saws, picks, shovels, &c. We found a guard of some 25 rebels, a picket of 3 men being at the mill, which we drove over Broad River at the ford close by. We remained here half an hour to prevent them from recrossing and extinguishing the fire at the mill and railroad bridge. From thence I proceeded as speedily as possible to the railroad bridge across Broad River, a distance of five miles, and found about 300 yards of it already consumed, having been fired by a foraging party of Company K of our regiment, under the charge of Sergeant Thompson, the evening before. From this point we started on our return to the command, and met no enemy during the evening or night, arriving within seven miles of Black Stocks at 12.30 o'clock at night. Our horses being tired, we camped for the night, and started for our command at daybreak, which we joined at 9 a. m. of the 23d, after traveling fifty-five miles.

Yours, very respectfully,

ANDREW JACKSON,
Lieutenant, Company C, Eighth Indiana Cavalry.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH INDIANA CAVALRY,
February 24, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded to brigade headquarters, First Brigade, Third Cavalry Division.

F. A. JONES,
Lieutenant-Colonel Eighth Indiana Cavalry.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, CAVALRY COMMAND,
In the Field, S. C., February 25, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded:

THOS. J. JORDAN,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
Lancaster, February 25, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the general-in-chief. I can safely say that all bridges and culverts on that railroad have been destroyed as far out as the railroad bridge over Broad River.

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Cavalry.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Savannah, Ga., February 24, 1865.

Major-General GILLMORE:

It is desirable to keep a lookout at Georgetown for communications from General Sherman. Please occupy it with a small force and keep a dispatch boat there to communicate the earliest telegram to these headquarters. General Easton is here with no later intelligence than you had yesterday. General Grover informs me that a deserter from Augusta reports that the last of Hood's army on its way to Beauregard passed through Augusta last Sunday, possibly 12,000. Being cut off from Beauregard, may they not turn toward Charleston and molest General Potter and his advance on the railroad?

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

J. D. WEBSTER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, February 24, 1865.

General FOSTER,
Charleston:

We have broken railroad from Midway to Aiken, from Orangeburg to the Santee, and from Columbia to Winnsborough. No fighting of any importance; enemy retreats northward. We are south of Lancaster and east of the Catawba, moving for Cheraw, Fayetteville, and Goldsborough. Roads are bad, but we find forage and supplies. We hear Charleston is abandoned. Push operations in North Carolina, and at any cost break the railroad below Goldsborough from New Berne.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 24, 1865.

Capt. CHARLES R. SUTER,
Chief Engineer:

CAPTAIN: The major-general commanding directs that you proceed to Charleston this evening by steamer Delaware and report to Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch, commanding Northern District, Department of the South.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 27. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, *Hilton Head, S. C., February 24, 1865.*

I. Lieut. Col. Stewart L. Woodford, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers, is hereby relieved from the duties of provost-marshal-general of the department, and is announced as chief of staff to the major-general commanding, and temporarily assigned to the command of the post of the city of Charleston, S. C., which post will consist of the city proper and Castle Pinckney.

II. In compliance with paragraph VII, Special Field Orders, No. 13, from headquarters Military Division of the Mississippi, the One hundred and twenty-seventh Regiment New York Volunteers is hereby designated as the permanent garrison of the post of Charleston, and Col. William Gurney, of that regiment, as the permanent post commander. Upon his return to the department, from which he is now absent on account of wounds, he will relieve Lieutenant-Colonel Woodford of the command of that post.

III. Maj. Benjamin W. Thompson, Thirty-second U. S. Colored Troops, is hereby announced as provost-marshal-general of the department, and will immediately relieve Lieutenant-Colonel Woodford, receipting to him for all money and property pertaining to the office.

IV. Lieut. Frank Geise, Thirty-second U. S. Colored Troops, assistant provost-marshal-general of the department, in addition to his duties as such, will act as collector of the department military tax prescribed by General Orders, No. 5, current series, from these headquarters, until the arrival of Lieut. Col. James H. Strong, First North Carolina (Union) Volunteers, heretofore announced as military tax collector.

Lieutenant Geise will immediately relieve Lieutenant-Colonel Woodford as acting military tax collector, receipting to him for all money and property pertaining to the office.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 24, 1865.

Brig. Gen. JOHN P. HATCH,
Commanding Coast Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you proceed at once to the Northern District, Department of the South, and assume command of the U. S. forces in that district.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 24, 1865.

Brig. Gen. E. P. SCAMMON,
Commanding District of Florida, Jacksonville, Fla.:

GENERAL: Brig. Gen. Seth Williams, acting inspector-general, U. S. Army, suggests that the small garrison and the Government stores at Saint Augustine, Fla., should all be within Fort Marion, or immediately outside of the fort and under its guns, to avoid the danger of the capture of that part of the command left in the town and the destruction of the Government property located there. The major-general com

manding directs that you take such immediate action in this matter as the necessities of the case, in your judgment, require, reporting the same to these headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 24, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

Richmond papers have ceased to give information of Sherman's movements. I presume, however, he is now past Charlotte with his advance and moving toward Goldsborough by the most practicable route. He may follow the railroad north for some distance past Charlotte, but this will depend on the movements and apparent strength of the enemy. I learn of nothing leaving here recently, except three brigades of Battle's division, numbering possibly 3,500 men. They left their position between the James and Appomattox yesterday morning. I hope and know you will push out and form a connection with Sherman at the earliest practicable moment. If you reach Goldsborough and have a fair prospect of getting your road finished soon, it may be unnecessary for Sherman to come down to the coast. Make every effort to communicate with Sherman at once. You will probably find some citizen who can be trusted to carry a note in cipher to Sherman. He has, I think, a cipher operator with him. Every effort has been made to get your troops and all else called for by you through, but the ice has kept everything back very much. Teams will be forwarded rapidly. I have also ordered one regiment of cavalry to you, numbering about 600 effective. I would send an entire division from Sheridan's army, but I have ordered him to move on the Virginia Central road and James River Canal. He will probably go to Lynchburg, and if information there received justifies it he will go on and join you and Sherman. If you and Sherman are once united you can keep as far in the interior of North Carolina as you may be able to supply yourselves. With your large force you will have united, Raleigh may not be found too far off. I congratulate you and the army under you for the brilliant success of which I have as yet received but the meager report sent by Admiral Porter. On receipt of the news I immediately telegraphed asking to have your name sent in to the Senate for the appointment of brigadier-general in the regular army, stating that I thought you should have the appointment for the battle of Franklin. I hope within a day or two to be able to congratulate you on your confirmation. Deserters from the rebel army are growing very numerous. Many are now bringing their arms with them. This morning forty-five came in a single squad and from a single regiment—a South Carolina regiment at that.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 24, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States, City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: After the capture of Wilmington General Terry pursued the enemy as far as the Northeast River, where he found the

railroad and pontoon bridges destroyed. The bridge over Smith's Creek is also destroyed. I have not learned whether any damage has been done to the railroad beyond the river. I shall push forward as soon as I can get any means of transportation. Wagons are beginning to arrive, and I hope the delay will not be long. The rebel agent of exchange has informed me that he will deliver 10,000 of our prisoners at the point where the railroad crosses the Northeast River, and I have agreed to receive them at that point. I presume he will commence to deliver them to-day. I am making all possible provision for the care of the sick, which will no doubt be a large proportion of the whole number. I have sent General Ruger's division of the Twenty-third Corps to New Berne, and shall send either General Terry or General Cox there to command the troops operating from that point. I will go there or remain with the troops operating from this place, as may seem advisable. I will also keep transports enough for a short time to carry a division from one point to the other, if it becomes necessary. I have heard nothing yet of the troops you have ordered General Gillmore to send me, but presume they must be along in a very few days. I can land them here or at Beaufort, according to circumstances. I have asked for the assignment of General Cox and General Terry to corps commands, both because the strength of my command renders it desirable and because it will enable me to leave either the one or the other in command of the column which I may not be with at any time. Moreover, it will make the organization of my army correspond with that of General Sherman's other grand divisions. I hope, for these reasons, my request may be complied with. I presume General Sherman, upon hearing of the fall of Wilmington, will send his cavalry this way to communicate with me and inform me of his progress. I shall also make constant efforts to communicate with him by means of scouts. I propose to repair both railroads toward Goldsborough as rapidly as possible. I shall also make such preparation as I can to send supplies to General Sherman by the river toward Fayetteville in case he should call for them.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, N. C., February 24, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States, City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: I respectfully request that the troops in this department which do not belong to the Twenty-third Army Corps may be organized into an army corps, and that Maj. Gen. Alfred H. Terry be assigned to its command. Also that Maj. Gen. J. D. Cox may be assigned to the command of the Twenty-third Army Corps.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *February 24, 1865—10 p. m.*
(Received 11.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Our troops entered Wilmington on the morning of the 22d instant. After the evacuation of Fort Anderson, General Schofield directed

Cox to follow its garrison toward Wilmington, while Terry followed Hoke on the east side of the river. The latter took up a new line four miles from Wilmington, but was so closely pressed by Terry that he could send no troops to the west side. On that side the rebels made a stand behind Town Creek, but on the 20th Cox crossed his troops below them on a flat-boat, attacked them in rear, and routed them, taking 2 guns and 300 prisoners. On the 21st Cox pushed to the Brunswick River, opposite Wilmington, where the bridges were on fire, and on his arrival the rebels began burning cotton and rosin in the city, and left it that night. Our captures, including Fort Anderson, amount to about 700 prisoners and 30 guns. Citizens state that the rebels burned 1,000 bales of cotton and 15,000 barrels of rosin. The Union feeling showed itself quite strongly in the city. Terry followed Hoke northward.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Aide-de-Camp, and Brevet Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 38. } *City Point, Va., February 24, 1865.*

The Thirteenth Regiment Pennsylvania Cavalry Volunteers will proceed without delay to Wilmington, N. C., and report to Maj. Gen. J. M. Schofield, commanding Department of North Carolina, for duty.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, N. C., February 24, 1865.

Brig. Gen. E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the following number of men required to fill the several regiments belonging to the Second and Third Divisions, Twenty-third Army Corps, to the maximum, and respectfully request that the deficiency be supplied by drafted men: Second Division: Twenty-fifth Michigan Volunteer Infantry, 507; One hundred and eleventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, 363; Sixth Tennessee Volunteer Infantry, 457; Twenty-third Michigan Volunteer Infantry, 139; Twenty-sixth Kentucky Volunteer Infantry, 22; Ninety-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, 482; One hundred and seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, 505; One hundred and eighty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, 79; One hundred and eighteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, 309; One hundred and eighty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, 147; Eightieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, 517; Fiftieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, 110. Third Division: One hundred and fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, 247; Sixty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, 257; Sixteenth Kentucky Veteran Volunteer Infantry, 485; One hundred and seventy-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, 136; Twelfth Kentucky Veteran Volunteer Infantry, 476; Fifth Tennessee Volunteer Infantry, 333; One hundredth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, 318; One hundred and twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, 267; Eighth Tennessee Volunteer Infantry, 390; Sixty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry, 250; One hundred and third Ohio

Volunteer Infantry, 362; One hundred and fortieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, 29; Sixty-fifth Illinois Veteran Volunteer Infantry, 434. A report of the number required to fill up the First Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, will be forwarded in a few days.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 13. } ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, N. C., February 24, 1865.

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IV. By direction of the lieutenant-general commanding Armies of the United States, Brig. Gen. T. F. Meagher is relieved from duty in this department. He will repair without delay to his place of residence and report by letter to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, N. C., February 24, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding desires you to let Colonel Daggett's brigade remain where it is for the present, picketing the road, &c., in that direction.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
No. 41. } *Northeast Station, N. C., February 24, 1865.*

I. Until further orders the Second Brigade, First Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps, will be attached to the command of Brig. Gen. C. J. Paine, commanding Third Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps. The light batteries of this command will hereafter report direct to these headquarters.

By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, February 25, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point:

No commander for the Department of West Virginia has yet been appointed. Hartsuff, in my opinion, is not fit for anything. I will

suggest to you a commander some time to-day or to-morrow. Schofield's nomination will be made, as requested, subject, however, to his obedience to orders. I am not satisfied with his conduct in seizing the hospital boat Spaulding, to make it his own quarters. I have directed him to give it up. If he obeys the order promptly I will send in his nomination, otherwise I will not. I wish you would instruct him as to the impropriety of an officer using hospital boats for their own personal accommodation, or using or employing transports for their quarters at a vast expense to the Government. There has been too much of such practice already, and he takes rather an early start in such irregularities.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 25, 1865—1.30 p. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

General Comstock has just returned from Wilmington. He says that General Schofield arrived at the Cape Fear River without his transportation, and as he had to move about on the water asked the quartermaster if there was a boat he could use temporarily as well as not. He was told the Spaulding was doing nothing. When General Comstock left the Spaulding was to be loaded with wounded and some escaped prisoners. I will have an order made prohibiting the use of boats for headquarters.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *February 25, 1865—12.40 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your letter of the 23d received. There is no occasion to expect the President will make any order against your wishes. The reasons mentioned by you have already been presented and are conclusive.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 25, 1865—2.30 p. m.*
(Received 7 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

One of my staff officers, who has just returned from Wilmington, says nothing has been done to save the large amount of ordnance and ordnance stores captured in Cape Fear River. I think the Chief of Ordnance should be required to take immediate steps to secure all ordnance stores captured on the coast.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 25, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *City Point:*

On the 19th orders were sent to General Gillmore to send all white troops not required to hold most important sea-ports to Cape Fear River.

He had not received it when he wrote his dispatch of the 21st.* I do not see the policy of opening any railroads from Charleston, but will await your orders on Gillmore's requisition.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 25, 1865—1 p. m.*
(Received 2 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

General Gillmore's dispatch of the 21st received. I scarcely see a contingency under which it will be necessary at present to open railroad communication in South Carolina. It is well enough to occupy Georgetown until Sherman is in communication from the seacoast. It is barely possible, though not probable, that he may require supplies from Georgetown. I expect nothing of the kind, however.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NEW YORK, *February 25, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Armies in the Field, Washington:

GENERAL: The citizens of New York have confided to us the grateful duty of transmitting the proceedings of a meeting held on the 22d instant, in which they offer their cordial congratulations to the country on the recent successes of the Union arms. In the performance of this duty we beg to assure you of our hearty concurrence in the sentiments of the resolutions and our admiration of the skill and gallantry evinced by the forces engaged in upholding the flag of the nation.

With the highest respect, we remain, your obedient servants,

MOSES TAYLOR,
Chairman.
SAM'L SLOAN,
S. B. CHITTENDEN,
Secretaries.

[Inclosure.]

NATIONAL CELEBRATION OF UNION VICTORIES.

MEETING OF CITIZENS.

NEW YORK, *February 22, 1865.*

On motion of Paul Spofford, esq., Mr. Moses Taylor was called to the chair, and Messrs. S. B. Chittenden and Samuel Sloan were appointed secretaries.

The chairman announced the purpose of the meeting, and Mr. Sloan offered the following resolutions, which were seconded by Mr. Charles H. Russell:

PROPOSED CELEBRATION OF UNION VICTORIES.

1. *Resolved*, That the war to quell rebellion, which now rapidly approaches its inevitable conclusion, involves essentially the principles of self-government, human freedom, and Christian civilization; that the people of the United States have abundant cause for congratulation in the knowledge that while successfully maintain-

* See p. 525.

ing, by force of arms, the Government of their choice and the life of the nation, they are at the same time effectually asserting the inviolable doctrine that this continent is forever devoted to the cause of liberal institutions and republican government.

2. *Resolved,* That the recent signal victories achieved by the military and naval power of the United States over the insurgent forces in revolt against the Government call for the expression of cordial congratulations to officers, soldiers, and seamen, who share in the renown of these glorious successes.

3. *Resolved,* That the armies led by Generals Grant, Sherman, Thomas, Meade, Sheridan, and Terry, and the naval forces serving under the orders of Admirals Farragut and Porter, have, by their valor and devotion to duty, maintained the integrity of the nation and upheld the honor of its flag, and richly deserve the applause of a grateful people.

4. *Resolved,* That in brilliancy of design, intrepid energy of action, inexorable determination to compel success, the campaign of Georgia and the Carolinas has no example in military history, and covers the names of Grant and Sherman with imperishable glory.

5. *Resolved,* That the treacherous assault upon Sumter has been fitly expiated in the ignominious flight of the assailants from the soil they had desecrated without a shot fired in defense of a city dedicated to treason.

6. *Resolved,* That it is becoming in a free and enlightened people to recognize and applaud distinguished public services rendered in the cause of the country, and that the citizens of New York regard it as a duty to give public expression of their gratitude to the heroic men who, under Divine Providence, have defended the flag and preserved the honor of the nation.

7. *Resolved,* That a committee of citizens be appointed to consider and report, at a subsequent meeting to be called by the chairman and secretary, in regard to the time and manner of celebrating the recent triumphs of the Union arms, and with the purpose of uniting in a whole community, irrespective of all other considerations, in a grand ovation to the principles of loyal duty to the country and its Government.

8. *Resolved,* That copies of these resolutions be transmitted to the President of the United States, to the governor of this State, and to the several officers named therein, and that the same be published.

Brief remarks were made by Mr. William M. Evarts, Mr. Wetmore, and others, and the resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Judge Davies offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. R. L. Stuart, and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the President be requested to send a national ship to Charleston Harbor to convey thither General Robert Anderson, that he may replace upon the flag-staff of Fort Sumter that national banner, the emblem of our liberties and of our Union, which, on the 13th of April, 1861, he was compelled to lower at the dictation of the traitors of South Carolina.

By order of the meeting:

MOSES TAYLOR,
Chairman.

S. B. CHITTENDEN,
SAM'L SLOAN,
Secretaries.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 93. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, February 25, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

53. Brig. Gen. Hugh Ewing, U. S. Volunteers, will report in person without delay to Major-General Schofield, U. S. Volunteers, commanding Department of North Carolina, to relieve Brig. Gen. T. F. Meagher, U. S. Volunteers.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Williams' Cross-Roads, February 25, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of yesterday is just received. General Logan's head of column reached West's Cross-Roads, near De Bruhl's, where he encamped two divisions last night. His other two divisions are heading on the same road, having moved toward Camden as far as Saunders' Creek, and then taking a cross-road directly toward Tillersville. I have to-day sent my headquarters escort, signal party, and scouts with instructions to go to Camden, burn the depot and bridge, and then rejoin us. I also directed General Logan to send all his mounted men to secure and hold Tiller's Bridge.

The rest of Logan's command will remain in camp to-day. General Blair's head of column encamped near Flat Rock last night. As soon as he gets near enough he will send his mounted infantry straight to Young's Bridge.

Considering the rain the roads in this quarter are not bad, though the farms are not very productive, and a good ways apart. My scouts, day before yesterday, under Lieutenant McQueen, stampeded a force of the enemy near Camden, captured three prisoners, and broke up twelve or fifteen muskets. General Logan's scouts were near Camden yesterday, and encountered some mounted militia, but no great force. The advance yesterday captured some 50 or 60 refugee wagons and a large number of fine mules. General John E. Smith's foragers captured about 70 militia. It is said they gave themselves up. General Blair's advance encountered a few rebel cavalry near Flat Rock last night. We have a good many prisoners, who left Charleston Thursday. The information is positive that Charleston is in our hands. A dispatch was received in Camden yesterday stating that Wilmington was in possession of our forces.

At the last crossing about 2,000 horses and mules were taken from men not authorized to use them. The unserviceable were killed. The artillery and mounted men and pontoon trains were refitted. I believe I understand your views fully, and will not hasten my march too much, and will carefully consider the propriety of sending a force to Florence. I think I might at least secure some rolling-stock above Black Creek by tapping the railroad near Darlington. I could send a division light to Darlington with mounted infantry. Thence the latter could move down to Florence and vicinity, burn bridges, trestle-work, &c., and return. This could be accomplished and the entire expedition reach Cheraw in five days, causing us to wait at Cheraw about three days. Please say if your movements on the left will admit of that amount of delay. My headquarters to-morrow night will be at Tillersville Post-Office. Please communicate with me through General Blair.

This will probably reach you in time to answer to-night, as the rear of General Blair's column will not be farther than Williams' Cross-Roads.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. DEPT. AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Williams' Cross-Roads, S. C., February 25, 1865.

The general believes that it is the enemy's intention to kill our foragers after capture. Two were found murdered the other day and labeled "Death to foragers." Two were killed this morning near General John E. Smith's camp. General Sherman's directions with regard to retaliation will be strictly carried out by corps and division commanders; yet it is enjoined again upon all officers to prohibit individual foraging. The party must be big enough to be self-protecting. In two or three instances of late trains have been so straggled out on the march that a sudden dash of the enemy might capture several wagons without difficulty, and frequently wagons are sent out to forage with insufficient guards of five or six men. Every officer who cares at all for our safety and would save the precious lives of our men must do his part to prevent these irregularities. If not already done, an officer will be detailed in each brigade to have permanent charge of the foraging parties. His name will be registered at division and corps headquarters. The corps chief of artillery will regulate the foraging for the Artillery Brigade of the corps; the chief quartermaster for the trains of the corps, and an officer be appointed to the same duty for each headquarters. Capt. P. A. Taylor, chief signal officer, is announced as the officer for these headquarters. The specific directions of each corps commander will be republished.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 49. } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Williams' Cross-Roads, February 25, 1865.

The movement for to-morrow will commence at 7 a. m. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will move to Young's Bridge. The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will move to Tiller's Bridge and cross at least two divisions. Each of the pontoon trains will be located daily in the column by the corps commander and its commanding officer notified. Headquarters will be to-morrow night at Tiller's Bridge.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
West's Cross-Roads, S. C., February 25, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: The rebel cavalry are moving on the Porter road, down on my flank. I have had a little fight with them and drove them off apparently. What they may have behind them I cannot say. I have had 2 men killed and several wounded; have killed and wounded some 10 rebels. Think it would be well for General Blair to send some of his advance well out toward this (Porter's) road to see what is in his front. Have possession of Tiller's Bridge all safe.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Williams' Cross-Roads, February 25, 1865—2.35 p. m.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Blair, commanding Seventeenth Army Corps, for his information. I think the road referred to in the within communication is the one shown on the map as running direct from West's to Camden.

By order of Major-General Howard:

WM. E. STRONG,
Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near West's Cross-Roads, S. C., February 25, 1865.

[Maj. MAX. WOODHULL:]

MAJOR: I respectfully report that I am still occupying the position as reported last evening. There are no indications of the enemy in my front. To-day there was one regiment of the Second Brigade of my division sent out on the road toward Camden to the distance of four miles and a half from my camp, but the reconnaissance discovered no signs of the enemy. Some of my foragers have been captured off in the direction of Camden, though I cannot learn of their being any body of rebels in that vicinity. The parties have all been well cautioned against separating when away from the column. One of my regiments encamps out on the Camden road one mile to-night, and I have a party of eighty men, mounted, sent back to the rear this evening, partially with a view to reconnoitering in that direction.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
West's Cross-Roads, S. C., February 25, 1865.

Brevet Major-General WOODS,
Commanding First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Instances of brutality, and murder even, have come to the attention of the commanding general, committed, it is presumed, by the citizens of the country upon foragers from this and other corps of the army. Moving through an enemy's country, in the manner and on distant marches as this army does, it becomes necessary to resort to this means of obtaining subsistence, as it would be impossible to carry rations for the campaign in our wagon trains. The general commanding has given the matter his attention, and would have issued instructions relative to a system of retaliation had not the commander-in-chief himself prepared a note upon the subject. I am directed to communicate the following extract from General Sherman's note for your information and guidance:

[Extract.]

He (General Kilpatrick) reports that two men of his foraging parties were murdered after capture by the enemy and labeled "Death to all foragers." Now, it is clearly our war right to subsist our army on the enemy. Napoleon always did it, but could avail himself of the civil powers he found in existence to collect forage and provisions by regular impressments. We cannot do that here, and I contend if

the enemy fails to defend his country we may rightfully appropriate what we want. If our foragers act under mine, yours, or other proper authority, they must be protected. I have ordered Kilpatrick to select of his prisoners man for man, shoot them, and leave them by the roadside labeled, so that our enemy will see that for every man he executes he takes the life of one of his own. I want the foragers, however, to be kept within reasonable bounds for the sake of discipline. I will not protect them when they enter dwellings and commit wanton waste, such as woman's apparel, jewelry, and such things as are not needed by our army. They may destroy cotton and tobacco, because these things are assumed by the rebel Government to belong to it, and are used as a valuable source of revenue. Nor will I consent to the enemy taking the lives of our men on their judgment. They have lost all title to property and can lose nothing not already forfeited, but we should punish for a departure from orders, and if the people resist our foragers I will not deem it wrong, but the Confederate army must not be supposed the champions of any people. I lay down these general rules and wish you to be governed by them. If any of your foragers are murdered, take life for life, leaving a record of each case.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Generals Hazen, John E. Smith, and Corse.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
West's Cross-Roads, S. C., February 25, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. B. HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to request you to push a brigade at once to the cross-roads at R. McCaskill's, where they will please go into camp in a defensive position, covering the cross-roads. General Smith has been skirmishing with the enemy's cavalry, and a force of rebels is believed to be in this vicinity.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Sandy Grove Church, February 25, 1865—1 p. m.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The head of column of both divisions has arrived here and encamping. I sent a force of mounted foragers early this morning to take possession of Tiller's Bridge. As soon as I hear from them I will report their success.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
West's Cross-Roads, February 25, 1865.

Major-General HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note written at 1 p. m. I presume ere this you have received instructions from the general commanding to place one brigade in position at the cross-roads at R. McCaskill's, and to send another to Tiller's Bridge,

which is in possession of our mounted infantry. My orderlies left with dispatches to that effect some time ago. General Smith had a skirmish with the enemy's cavalry on the Roberts road, killing and wounding about ten of their men.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Sandy Grove Church, S. C., February 25, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have, in accordance with instructions, placed a brigade at Tiller's Bridge, also have sent two regiments to Kelly's Bridge. I have thought best to do so, as the bridge (Kelly's) is in our hands, is in serviceable condition, and would be available for use should it be thought advisable to send a column across there, using the system of parallel roads south of the main Cheraw road. In a note, just received, you allude to an order to push a brigade to McCaskill's. No such order has been received, and by referring to the map, as it would be sending troops to the rear some three or more miles, I presume the order may have been given to some troops behind that position. Be pleased to reply if it is still expected for me to send troops to McCaskill's.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 25, 1865.

Major-General HAZEN,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: As you have not yet received my note requesting you to place a brigade at McCaskill's Cross-Roads I presume my orderly has been captured. The enemy has quite a force of cavalry in our neighborhood, and we have lost some foragers and two headquarters orderlies. The general wants a brigade from either the Second or Fourth Division placed in position at McCaskill's, as indicated in my note.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS.
West's Cross-Roads, S. C., February 25, 1865.

[Maj. Gen. WILLIAM B. HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:]

GENERAL: Major Burkhardt reports that the bridge over Lynch's Creek, on the Camden and Cheraw road, near Tillersville Post-Office, is in his possession, and in good order. Please push your advanced brigade to the bridge, with instructions to hold the same, as this corps may cross at that point. It would be well for them to intrench.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
West's Plantation, S. C., February 25, 1865.

[Maj. MAX. WOODHULL:]

MAJOR: I am directed by the general commanding to inform you that foragers report that from 300 to 400 of the enemy are about three miles back on this road on which this command marched yesterday, and that it may be the advance of a larger force. He respectfully suggests that if it meets with the approbation of the major-general commanding corps that a brigade be sent to near the right of the Second Brigade of this division, the point designated by him yesterday for one brigade. General Smith has started out to ascertain, if possible, what foundation there is for the above report.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. M. BUDLONG,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
West's Cross-Roads, S. C., February 25, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. JOHN M. CORSE,
Commanding Fourth Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: It has been ascertained that the enemy have quite a force of cavalry on our flanks and are picking up a large number of our foragers, scouts, and stragglers. Division commanders will please call the attention of officers in charge of forage details to the necessity of holding their men well in hand and in condition to meet an attack by the mounted force of the enemy. A detachment of foragers under command of an intelligent officer, when not drunk or scattered, have nothing to fear from cavalry dashes, but can make good their retreat upon the main column should they encounter a superior force. But when scattered, engaged in the pursuit of plunder, rather than in gathering subsistence for the army, they render themselves an easy prey to an active enemy. In this connection I have the honor to invite your attention to a communication from these headquarters relative to the treatment of certain foragers captured by the enemy from General Kilpatrick.*

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Generals Woods, Hazen, and John E. Smith.)

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Pine Tree Church, S. C., February 25, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following as a report of the movements of my division this instant: I broke camp at 7.30 a. m. and moved by a cut road parallel to the Camden and Cheraw road to Pine Tree Meeting-House, a distance of eight miles. I have ordered three

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*See Woodhull to Woods, p. 567.

regiments to move to McCaskill's Cross-Roads, four miles distant, with instructions to hold that position. The remainder of my command is in a defensible position and in bivouac at this point.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In Field, Pine Tree Meeting-House, February 25, 1865.

Col. F. J. HURLBUT,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: You will pay particular attention to the posting of your pickets to-night, connecting on the right with those of General Rice, and instructing them to be on the alert and very watchful toward morning. Hampton's cavalry, said to be about 5,000 strong, are in our vicinity, and captured most of the foragers of the First Division to-day and some wagons.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MOUNTED INFANTRY,
Near Tiller's Bridge, S. C., February 25, 1865—1.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Pursuant to orders from headquarters Fifteenth Army Corps, I broke camp at daybreak this a. m. and marched to this place, at which I arrived at 9 a. m., meeting with no opposition and finding the bridge safe. We captured 10 guns, 7 kegs of powder, and 20 prisoners. There is another bridge four miles below. The road is good to both bridges on this side. On the opposite side the roads are swampy for about a quarter of a mile. I have picketed the road at both bridges and await orders. My vedettes have just brought in a company of State militia, seventeen strong.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

CH. BURKHARDT,
Major Twenty-ninth Missouri Infantry, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Hough's Bridge, on Little Lynch's Creek, February 25, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: The Fourth Division of my command is encamped one mile and a half east of Little Lynch's Creek. The First Division is encamping on the west side of the creek. The Third Division will encamp from three to five miles back. I have not yet heard from them.

Respectfully,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 52. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Hough's Bridge, Little Lynch's Creek, February 25, 1865.*

The movement to-morrow will be to Young's Bridge:

The First Division, Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower commanding, will move forward at 6 a. m., crossing Little Lynch's Creek.

The Fourth Division, Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith commanding, will be prepared to move at 8.30 o'clock, and will follow the First Division.

The First Michigan Engineers will move next after the troops of the First Division, with their tool-wagons and ambulances.

Their train will follow the train of the First Division.

The Third Division, Brig. Gen. M. F. Force commanding, will move forward at daylight and will march as far as practicable.

The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will move forward at 6.30 a. m.

Corps headquarters train will follow the headquarters train of the First Division.

Great care will be taken that the foragers are kept together, as the enemy's cavalry are hovering on our flanks.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NOTE.—The First Division not getting across Little Lynch's Creek in time, the Fourth Division moved in advance.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Little Lynch's Creek, Hough's, February 25, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding wishes you to move as far as you can to-day and go into camp. He wishes you to send him word where you are. The Fourth Division will encamp on the east side of Little Lynch's Creek, crossing at Hough's Bridge; First Division on west side.

Very respectfully,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Hough's Bridge, S. C., February 25, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say to you that you will move forward at daylight to-morrow morning, following the road taken by the other divisions, crossing Hough's Bridge on Little Lynch's Creek. Order the pontoon train to move with you. The road passed over to-day has been good and I think you will find it the same to-morrow. The leading division will make Young's Bridge to-morrow, and the general wishes you to make as near that point as practicable. Instruct your foragers to be on the lookout, as the enemy's cavalry are scouting round us.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Copeland's, S. C., February 25, 1865.

Capt. C. CADLE, Jr.,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that this command camps at Copeland's to-night. The advance reached it at 7 p. m., and at this writing, 8.30 p. m., the supply train and bridge train are still to come in. The roads are terrible. At the least calculation I have built four miles of corduroy to-day. Men and animals are both extremely tired. The bridge train parked three miles in rear of my division last night. Copeland's is on the east bank of Flat Rock Creek, two miles north of Flat Rock Post-Office.

I am, captain, very truly, yours,

M. F. FORCE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, February 25, 1865.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: It is plain that we must reduce our trains. If you will order General Davis to burn his trains beyond the river and double his teams I can make up 100 or 200 wagons out of the headquarters trains and from Howard when we meet at Cheraw. He could discriminate as to contents, giving the preference to those containing salt, sugar, coffee, and bread. Of course the pontoon train must be carried along.

I am, yours, &c.,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, February 25, 1865.

General SLOCUM, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: General Sherman would like to know if General Williams is to move to-day. If he is, General Sherman would like to see you, but he counsels lying by until better weather, or at least to-day.

Very respectfully, yours,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, near Warrenton, S. C., February 25, 1865—8 p. m.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that if you find it impossible to get your wagons over the river you had better destroy them and double your teams, being careful to preserve your ammunition, salt, sugar, coffee, and hard bread, and the pontoon train. Should you find it necessary to destroy any of your wagons they will be made up to you from other sources.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 17.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Hilliard's Farm, S. C., February 25, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow at the same time and in the same order as was ordered for to-day. General Pardee will take charge of 250 teams, Colonel Mindil, 150, and General Barnum the remainder.

Each regiment will march in a body by the side of the portion of the train assigned to it, and will be used whenever necessary to repair the roads or assist the teams through bad places.

The pioneer company of each brigade will report at the head of the column to General Pardee, who will use them, together with his leading regiment, to make corduroy road and other repairs.

No troops will leave the trains assigned to them until they have brought them into camp.

Whenever there is a halt in any portion of the train, the trains in rear must move up into park whenever the ground will admit.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary:

W. T. FORBES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, *February 25, 1865.*

Major-General GILLMORE,
Hilton Head:

GENERAL: I inclose herewith a copy of General Grant's reply* to your dispatch of the 21st. The railroad employés asked for will not be sent, at least for the present. It is presumed that before this time you have received my dispatch of the 19th, and have sent all your available white troops to Wilmington. General Grant expects to open communication with General Sherman through North Carolina, and all our efforts are to be made in that direction. It is hoped that you will not increase the number of your military posts, and will send as many troops as you possibly can to Wilmington. We want to hold nothing in South Carolina at present except the ports, and guns can be so arranged in the forts as to command the city of Charleston.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK.
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 25, 1865.

Brig. Gen. L. C. EASTON,
Chief Quartermaster, Savannah, &c.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of an extract from a letter to you from Bvt. Maj. Gen. M. C. Meigs, Quartermaster-General U. S. Army, dated Washington, D. C., February 14, 1865, in regard to the railroads running from Savannah.

Very respectfully, &c.,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

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* See Grant to Halleck, 1 p. m., p. 563.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 25, 1865.

Col. A. BECKWITH,
Chief Commissary of Subsistence, Savannah:

I gave orders to have Georgetown occupied, but I fear the weather has delayed the operation. I go up to Charleston to-night. The navy are in the inner bay at Georgetown.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 25, 1865.

Brig. Gen. HENRY PRINCE,
Blair's Landing, S. C.:

It is reported by colored people that Hood's army, about 12,000 strong, passed through Augusta some days since to join Beauregard. Finding himself cut off, he may turn upon us. Should he appear on your front you will fall back to Port Royal Ferry. The railroad can be of no use to him, and you need not attempt to hold it against a greatly superior force.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 25, 1865—2 a. m.

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the South.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor respectfully to report as follows: A number of deserters from General Hardee's army were brought in last night. They left the enemy's lines on the 21st, 22d, and 24th instant, in the neighborhood of Santee River. It seems there is no doubt that General Sherman has taken Columbia and has advanced a good distance eastward. The rebel officers expressed the fear that they were already cut off by General Sherman's army. General Hardee was said to be ordered to take with his army the route from Santee River along the railroad to Florence and Cheraw, S. C., and from the latter place to march to Charlotte, N. C. General Hardee's army, now at Santee River, numbers between 10,000 and 12,000, with about forty pieces of artillery. The last of his troops will cross Santee River to-day. General Potter was yesterday morning twenty-two miles from Charleston on the State road. I ordered him to advance as far as possible and try to prevent the enemy from destroying the trestle-work of the railroad line over and near Santee River. The Northeastern Railroad is repaired as far as Goose Creek, and trains are running. The repairs of the trestle-work at Goose Creek will require at least three days. Three locomotives and twenty-four cars were ready yesterday. Another train will be furnished to-day. Telegraph communication was established yesterday between Goose Creek and Charleston, and will probably be established between Charleston and General Potter's command. Major Place is at work on the State road bridge over Goose Creek. I am informed that there are between six and seven feet of water in Cooper River near Santee Canal

(Monk's Corner), and that the canal may be passed by row-boats and perhaps light-draft steamers. The Savannah, with 100 men, will leave here this morning at 9 o'clock, accompanied by one or two gun-boats, and is ordered to go up Cooper River to the head of navigation (Santee Canal, Monk's Corner). The vessels will make as much noise as possible, firing to the eastward, and try to connect with General Potter as soon as possible. Should the river prove as navigable as pilots report it to be, General Potter will to-day have a new and more simple base. I shall order the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, with a number of row-boats, up Cooper River to try to pass the canal and to Santee River. Admiral Dahlgren was to land yesterday 350 marines on the northern shore of Santee River, in order to co-operate with the gun-boats against the Georgetown battery. I have not been able to send any force to Santee River up to this moment. The One hundred and fifty-seventh New York Volunteers have not yet arrived, neither has Colonel Van Wyck's brigade. The Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, which I ordered in from General Potter's command for that purpose, has not yet reported. I have therefore been obliged to order 300 men of Twenty-first U. S. Colored Troops to Santee River on board the Augusta. Ensign Neil, commanding the Augusta, will leave the harbor at daylight. The officers have full instructions, and the movement will be supported by the navy. I would respectfully repeat my application for the appointment of a regular and able commissary for this district. I am very much in want of cavalry saddles and bridles and of artillery harness. To hasten the work on the railroad requires a large number of axes and spades, which are not to be had in this district. The trestle-work of the railroad bridges requires a large amount of lumber, twelve by twelve, and a supply of six-inch spikes. The commissary stores have finally arrived. I have ordered about 400 deserters and prisoners and some cattle to be sent to Hilton Head by the Loyalist.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 25, 1865.

Brigadier-General HATCH,
Commanding Coast Division:

GENERAL: I have the honor to request that the cavalry from under your command be ordered to report to me as soon as practicable, as I wish to send them to Brigadier-General Potter.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 25, 1865.

Col. C. H. VAN WYCK,
Commanding First Brigade, Hatch's Division:

COLONEL: As soon as your brigade is ready it will cross over the Ashley River and will proceed to the Northeastern Railroad depot, from whence it will take the cars to Goose Creek. Lieutenant Hagens, act-

ing assistant quartermaster and chief quartermaster of this district will furnish the necessary transportation. Captain Blau, acting aide-de-camp of the staff of the brigadier-general commanding, will guide your command. The proper steps will be taken to prevent straggling in the city. The troops will march with bands playing and colors flying.

By order of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig:

J. W. DICKINSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, February 25, 1865.

Col. P. P. BROWN, Jr.,
157th New York Volunteers:

COLONEL: You will cross over to Charleston City as soon as convenient. Lieutenant Hagens, acting assistant quartermaster, will furnish transportation. Captain Blau, acting aide-de-camp of the brigadier-general's (commanding) staff, will guide your command. The proper steps will be taken to prevent straggling in the city. Captain Blau will conduct your command to the fortification outside of the city. Your regiment will have their colors flying and band playing when marching through the city.

By order of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig:

J. W. DICKINSON,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 25, 1865—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. E. E. POTTER:

GENERAL: Deserters who came in around your command to-day state that the enemy had outposts on this (east) side of Cooper River, opposite Strawberry Ferry. Others state that the last of the enemy's infantry will cross Santee River to-day, and that the trestle-work and railroad bridge are not yet burned. Try to prevent them from doing so. I will furnish you to-morrow with another base. I understand that there is from five to seven feet of water in Cooper River up to Santee Canal, Monk's Corner. The tin-clad Savannah will leave here to-day at 9 a. m. with 100 men, and probably be accompanied by one or two gun-boats, and is ordered to proceed up Cooper River to the head of navigation (Santee Canal, Monk's Corner), and to make in going up as much noise as possible, firing eastward. The officer in command has orders to connect with you as soon as practicable. The Augusta will leave at daylight this morning with 300 men of the Twenty-first U. S. Colored Troops, proceed to Santee River, ascend the river to the railroad bridge if possible, and connect with you in that neighborhood. The navy will support this movement with gun-boats, steam and other launches. Colonel Van Wyck's brigade has not arrived, nor the One hundred and fifty-seventh New York Volunteers, nor the Fifty-second Pennsylvania. I will forward Colonel Van Wyck's brigade by trains to Goose Creek as fast as they arrive. Guides furnished by you and your orders should be ready for them there to-day, and await them. They will be provided with three days' rations. Yesterday I ordered

200 men of the Twenty-first U. S. Colored Troops to report to you. Telegraphic communication is established between here and Goose Creek. Yesterday afternoon Captain Luttwitz sent a telegraph operator with instrument, &c., up the railroad to find you. Five mounted orderlies have been stationed at Goose Creek to convey dispatches to and from you. After telegraphic communication has been assured they will be at your disposal for other purposes. Five more wagons will be sent for you to Goose Creek by train this morning. For one section of artillery I have not yet been able to find horses and harness. The last report received from you was given to me verbally by Captain Luttwitz after he had seen you day before yesterday. The Fifty-second Pennsylvania, after having reported to these headquarters, will take up Cooper River a number of boats, and you may order them to enter Santee River by way of the Santee Canal, if the latter should not be passable by the Savannah.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 25, 1865.

COMDG. OFFICER TWENTY-FIRST U. S. COLORED TROOPS:

CAPTAIN: Your command will immediately march in from the lines to the Atlantic Dock, where they will hold themselves in readiness to embark without delay on the tin-clad Augusta. They will draw from the chief commissary of the district enough rations to enable them to have on hand ten days' rations from to-morrow morning.

By order of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig:

J. W. DICKINSON,
Capt., Twenty-first U. S. Colored Troops, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 25, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. GROVER,
Savannah, Ga.:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that no abandoned or captured property of any kind whatever be put on board any Government transport for the purpose of removing it from your district, without proper authority from the U. S. Treasury agent.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Hatch.)

CITY POINT, VA., *February 25, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Fortress Monroe:

Do not hesitate about making any changes in commanders you may think necessary. I supposed Palmer had Kinston before this. I think by all means you should get Goldsborough, and hold and supply it as soon as possible. If you have information of Sherman coming in at

any other point, you will, of course, want to meet him with supplies. If he should come to Fayetteville, you could send supplies after his arrival there. Prepare to send supplies forward to Fayetteville the moment you know Sherman is coming in there.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

(Sent by telegraph to Fort Monroe and thence by boat to Wilmington.)

WILMINGTON, N. C., *February 25, 1865.*
(Received March 5.)

Maj. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

GENERAL: I am happy to inform you that we are in Wilmington. The enemy evacuated and destroyed all Government shops and material. I am securing all the property that will be of service to the department. I hope the engine and cars will be forwarded with all possible dispatch. Please direct that two light-draft propeller tugboats and two side-wheel tug boats be ordered here for duty as soon as possible. This department is deficient in assistant quartermasters. Please send six good efficient officers. I will send you regular reports and estimates as soon as I get the department organized. The army is in good spirits. We have been crowned with success.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
G. S. DODGE,
Colonel and Chief Quartermaster, Dept. of North Carolina.

WILMINGTON, N. C., *February 25, 1865.*
(Received 4 p. m. March 5.)

Brig. Gen. D. C. MCCALLUM,
Washington:

Wilmington is in our possession and General Schofield wishes the railroad leading from here to Goldsborough opened up immediately. I am ready to commence work at once, but have not received a single car or locomotive yet, nor any of the supplies which I have made requisitions for. Nothing of any importance can be done here until we get these supplies and rolling-stock. If the rolling-stock has not been shipped, would it not be well to send some from City Point to this point at once? I can change the gauge afterward, but I must have something to work with now. I also need more men. Can't you send me part of the construction force in Virginia until my men arrive from the West? I would like to have McAlpine with 500 men sent here as soon as it is possible to send them.

W. W. WRIGHT,
Chief Engineer Government Railroads, &c.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 14. } ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, N. C., February 25, 1865.

1. Maj. Gen. J. D. Cox is hereby assigned to the command of the District of Beaufort. He will repair without delay to New Berne,

N. C., and assume the command to which he is assigned. Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer will report to Major-General Cox for duty.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 25, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding District of Beaufort:

GENERAL: Your assignment to the District of Beaufort is for temporary purposes only. The object to be gained by your operations is the possession of the railroad from New Berne to Goldsborough, so that it may be put in order for the use of the army. The troops moving from this place will at the same time open the Wilmington and Goldsborough road, and, if necessary, will act in conjunction with you in securing the crossing of the Neuse River and the occupation of Kinston and Goldsborough. These operations are to be begun at once and pushed forward as rapidly as practicable, so that the workmen may not be delayed in reconstructing the road. The details of your operations are left entirely to your own judgment. Please communicate with me frequently, giving me full information of the situation of affairs.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, February 25, 1865.

Major-General COX,
Commanding District of Beaufort:

GENERAL: The vessels carrying General Ruger's troops were ordered to await orders from me in Beaufort Harbor. Please order them to return to Fort Monroe and report by telegraph to Brigadier-General Rucker, quartermaster in Washington, for orders.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, N. C., February 25, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. N. COUCH,
Commanding Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

The commanding general directs that you concentrate your division at Wilmington, where Colonel Moore's brigade now is. The troops will march and the baggage be brought up by boat.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 23D ARMY CORPS,
No. 8. } *Wilmington, N. C., February 25, 1865.*

I. During the temporary absence of the major-general commanding Brig. Gen. J. W. Reilly, commanding First Brigade, Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, is hereby assigned to the command of the division.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 23D ARMY CORPS,
No. 17. } *Wilmington, N. C., February 25, 1865.*

I. The general commanding having been ordered to Beaufort, N. C., the following officers of his staff will accompany him: Maj. T. T. Dow, acting assistant inspector-general; Maj. Theodore Cox, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. Hobert Ford, aide-de-camp; Capt. E. E. Tracy, aide-de-camp.

II. During the temporary absence of Maj. Theodore Cox, assistant adjutant-general, Capt. C. D. Rhodes, acting assistant adjutant-general, Second Brigade, will perform the duties of assistant adjutant-general at these headquarters.

III. Capt. Levi T. Scofield, Company F, One hundred and third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, is hereby detailed as topographical engineer, Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, to date from November 30, 1864.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Northeast Station, N. C., February 25, 1865.

All further foraging by any persons of this command, except by permission from these headquarters, is prohibited. The pickets will be instructed to permit none to pass out of the lines, except upon passes so approved.

By order of Major-General Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT
Washington City, February 25, 1865—12.45 p. m.

Major-General DIX,
New York:

An order will at the proper time be issued by this Department to General Anderson to replace the flag on Sumter. It will not be necessary for you to issue any order.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, February 26, 1865—12.25 p. m.
(Received 6 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The Chief of Ordnance sent yesterday an ordnance officer to Cape Fear River to secure the captured ordnance and ordnance stores. I have made the appointment of Schofield brigadier-general in regular army.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 26, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I regretted greatly when I learned that General Gillmore had been assigned to the command of the Department of the South. He probably will be a suitable officer to have the general superintendence of the fortifications on the seacoast, but on that duty he should be required to have all his requisitions approved by General Delafield or he will expend too much. Foreseeing the fall of Charleston, I sent orders to General Gillmore in advance of hearing of the event to occupy the necessary points on the coast for us to hold with minimum garrisons, and send the balance of his forces to the Cape Fear River, and to send all white troops, leaving the colored ones where they have been raised and where their families are. Before he received that order I suppose he sent a letter calling for from 4,000 to 5,000 more troops, 1,000 mounted men, with which he expects, by uniting the civil with the military, to feed and foster the Union sentiment. I feel confident that, with General Terry in command of that department, instead of wanting an addition to his force, he will spare 10,000 men to be used elsewhere, and the balance will be much more economically supported and usefully employed. He will administer the affairs of his department with sense and judgment, and will not talk about expeditions and conquests where there is no enemy to oppose him. He will also prove a most excellent man to organize colored troops.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Ingraham's House, S. C., February 26, 1865.

General HOWARD:

March slow and in order. Send to break the railroad. General Davis is not yet across the Catawba. The freshet carried away his pontoons, and I think he will have to burn a part of his trains. The Twentieth Corps is at Hanging Rock, and I think General Kilpatrick is at Lancaster. I will go with the Twentieth Corps by Horton's Tavern and Blakeny's Bridge.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 50.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Tiller's Bridge, S. C., February 26, 1865.

I. The command will move to-morrow at 7 a. m. on Cheraw, concentrating at that point on the 1st of March. The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will move in two columns. The right column will cross Lynch's Creek at Kelly's Bridge and move by the way of New Market and Society Hill. A sufficient force of mounted men will accompany the right column to be able when the column has approached Society Hill to break the railroad below that point and cut off whatever trains may be above Black Creek. The left column will move by the direct route crossing Lynch's Creek at Tiller's Bridge. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will cross Lynch's Creek at Young's Bridge and move upon the direct route via McDonald's. Headquarters of the department will follow the leading division of the left column of the Fifteenth Army Corps.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement on General Logan's copy.]

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Tiller's Bridge, S. C., February 26, 1865.

Respectfully returned to Capt. A. M. Van Dyke, assistant adjutant-general, Department and Army of the Tennessee.

It is impossible to comply with this order. Lynch's Creek is now, on account of the freshet, some three-quarters of a mile wide, and, for some distance in many places, swimming to a horse. I have neither pontoons nor any material to bridge the stream. The general commanding was over the stream with me to-day and certainly could see the impracticability of crossing without destroying all our subsistence and ammunition. If that is desirable I can swim my men and animals and cross with a destruction of ammunition and supplies. It is an easy matter to put an order on paper that cannot be obeyed, and then place the responsibility on those who fail to comply. I only have to say that I cannot cross this stream with my command under all the circumstances until the water subsides, and hereby protest against the order as being impossible to be obeyed.

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Tiller's Bridge, S. C., February 26, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: We have attempted to cross some regimental teams over Lynch's Creek, but the water is so high that I have ordered the trains to go into park on this side of the stream, as I believe it will be impossible to pass our trains over without damage to our ammunition and subsistence supplies until the water subsides.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Tiller's Bridge, S. C., February 26, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that in obedience to your orders I left my camp near West's Cross-Roads at 7 o'clock this morning, marching on this point by way of Pine Tree Church. I am now encamped within one mile of Tiller's Bridge, at the crossing of the Camden and Cheraw road with the Young's Bridge and Bishopville road, with one brigade toward Bishopville, facing south; one toward Camden, facing west; one toward Young's Bridge, facing north. My headquarters are at the cross-roads.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Tiller's Bridge, S. C., February 26, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: A prisoner brought in this evening reports that he left Lieutenant-General Hardee's army yesterday morning at Florence, and that it is now marching up the road between that point and Cheraw, with the head of column, as the prisoner supposes, at Cheraw to-night. The enemy he reports to be moving with the intention of uniting at Charlotte.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
West's Cross-Roads, S. C., February 26, 1865.

Col. GEORGE A. STONE,
Comdg. Third Brigade, First Division, 15th Army Corps:

COLONEL: In addition to the instructions you have doubtless received from Major-General Woods, your immediate commander, you will please act as rear guard to the column, at the same time continuing and affording your escort to the pontoon train.

The rebel General Hampton, with quite a cavalry force, is in our neighborhood, and it behooves us to resort to every means to preserve our trains and the column from sudden dashes of cavalry.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Tiller's Bridge, February 26, 1865.

General HAZEN, *Commanding Second Division:*

The rebel cavalry that were on this side of the river have moved down in the direction of your camp on the road on which we encamped last night. Look well to your wagons and foraging parties.

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

(Same to General Smith, Third Division.)

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Kelly's Brigde, S. C., February 26, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that my command arrived at this point at 12 m. to-day, and crossed two brigades and the battery. The water then rose so high as to necessitate the construction of temporary bridges over several deep parts of the stream. The condition of the crossing prevented the crossing of the trains. The water is now reported falling, which will enable me to complete the work early to-morrow.

About seventy rebel cavalry were across the river this evening and probably captured a few of the First Division foragers.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

I have not previously reported concerning the capture of Camden on the 24th. On the 22d and 23d the foragers of this division skirmished up to the suburbs of the town, were twice repulsed, but on the evening of the 23d entered the town, capturing several militiamen. On the morning of the 24th a party of foragers approaching the left of the town were captured by a small party of Hampton's cavalry, but those approaching from the right carried the town, releasing their comrades and killing one militiaman. We afterward captured the post commissary and chaplain. There was found in town 50,000 rations of corn meal and several thousand bales of cotton, all of which was burned before the fact was known to me. Several other captures have been made of officers and men driven away from the place. A regiment from the Fourth Division occupied the place for a short time.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Kelly's Ferry, S. C., February 26, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this division moved at 10.30 o'clock this a. m. (following First Division) on Camden road via Pine Tree and ——— Churches to Kelly's Ferry, encamping at 4.30 p. m. Distance marched, twelve miles. Upon arriving at ——— Church I was informed by foragers and negroes that about 250 rebel cavalry had been seen upon and near the road after the Second Division had passed over it. I sent a small force of my escort company forward and deployed three companies of infantry as skirmishers, but did not succeed in developing any of the enemy. A foraging party from this command went to Bishopville this morning and found a small force of cavalry, which retreated. The division is encamped in line about one-quarter of a mile west of Lynch's Creek, covering roads to the rear. These headquarters are at Kelly's house.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Lynch's Creek, S. C., February 26, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my command this instant: I broke camp at 7 a. m. and moved upon the Camden and Cheraw road to Lynch's Creek, seven miles distant, where I arrived at 10.30 a. m., and found the low land contingent to the stream submerged with water to a mean depth of three feet, and extending over a flat of half a mile in breadth, and although the bridge across the main channel was intact, the roads were impracticable for the passing of army trains, and the water rising rapidly. In order to secure the bridge and occupy the position designated in orders from corps headquarters, I succeeded in crossing one brigade of infantry and my battery, although the men were compelled to wade in the water to their waists, making a lodgment on the opposite bank at 12 m. Prior to the crossing of this force the foraging details from my own command, and others of the corps, had encountered the enemy's cavalry and been driven in toward Tiller's Bridge, but were checked by the appearance of my infantry and the addition of a few mounted men of the Seventh Illinois Veteran Volunteers and orderlies attached to these headquarters. It is impossible to state definitely, to-night, the losses or casualties incident to the promiscuous skirmishing which took place. Nine of the enemy are known to have been killed, several wounded brought in, and five taken prisoners. A list of the casualties of my command will be forwarded in due time. The enemy's force is variously estimated at from 500 to 2,000, and reported as passing to my right toward evening. In the skirmishing which took place I am pleased to mention the name of Corpl. Elijah G. Davis, Company I, Eighty-first Ohio Volunteers, with forage detail, who distinguished himself by refusing to surrender when attacked by four rebels, and fought hand to hand with them until he received seven wounds, and finally escaped death on the spot by the assistance of a comrade. His wounds, it is thought, will not prove fatal, and consist mainly of saber cuts. During the afternoon I succeeded in crossing the remainder of my infantry (except five companies left as guard to train), and have placed my command in a defensible position, strongly picketing all approaches to the bridge. I have not been able to cross any portion of my supply or ordnance train except thirty-six boxes ammunition which had to be brought a portion of the way by hand. The water, up to 9 p. m., is still rising, and in some places can not be forded.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 27.

HDQRS. 4TH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Pine Tree Meeting-House, S. C., February 26, 1865.

I. The troops of this division will march at 7 a. m. this instant (the leading brigade moving out upon the road at 6.30 a. m.) upon the direct road to Tiller's Bridge, in the following order:

The First Brigade in advance, with two regiments in advance and two marching by the side of the battery; Second Brigade in the center marching by the side of the trains, in two ranks on each side, if

possible; Third Brigade in rear, with one regiment as rear guard and the others marching by the side of the trains. Trains in same order as yesterday.

The attention of brigade commanders and officers in charge of trains is called to the fact that we shall be in advance of the entire corps and that the enemy's cavalry is in strong force on our flanks, and it is therefore of the greatest importance that the division column is moved well closed up and compact, and the foragers instructed to act as flankers.

Let the movement from camp be prompt. The regiments now absent from the division will rejoin their respective commands at 7 a. m. to-day.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

LOUIS H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Young's Bridge, S. C., February 26, 1865—2 p. m.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: My advance is at this point. I will put one division across to-night, if practicable. The bridge all right, but the approach on both sides is very bad. I shall have to corduroy one-quarter of a mile on one side and about one mile on the other. Two brigades of rebel cavalry crossed here this a. m., coming from our right. I expect two divisions up to-night. The rear division within five miles.

Respectfully,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Tillersville Bridge, February 26, 1865—3.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

DEAR GENERAL: General Logan has the most of Corse's division across the Lynch, but the water is over the road for about a mile. I wish you to move from Young's Bridge to Cheraw direct in three days, at least. Logan will do the same. We had quite a skirmish with rebel cavalry near Woodham's, as marked on the map. The rebels charged our skirmish line and foragers. They lost a good many horses and a few wounded and prisoners. General Logan took about 100 prisoners yesterday at Tiller's Bridge.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

P. S.—The water has risen considerably within the last two hours, and it will be impossible to cross any more of the train until the water subsides. I think by to-morrow morning the water will fall so that the wagons can be crossed without difficulty.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Lynch's Creek, Young's Bridge, S. C., February 26, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: The water on the road for about a mile on the other side of the Lynch is from two to four feet deep, but is falling slowly. I think I shall be able to cross my train in the morning. I am building a foot bridge to-night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 53. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Young's Bridge, S. C., February 26, 1865.

The movement to-morrow will be in the direction of Cheraw.

The First Division, Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower commanding, will be prepared to move at 7 a. m., and if the water is low enough on the road on the opposite side of the creek, will cross at that hour.

The Fourth Division, Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith commanding, will be prepared to move at 8.30 o'clock and will follow the First Division.

Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will move forward at 6 a. m. and will follow the route of the corps. He will move as far as practicable to morrow, endeavoring to close up to the rest of the command.

The bridge train will move as General Force will direct. The troops will move on the right of the train.

Division commanders will take all possible precautions to prevent dashes of the enemy on the trains.

The First Michigan Engineers will follow the troops of the First Division with their tool wagons and ambulances. Their train will follow the train of the First Division.

Corps headquarters train will move with the train of First Division headquarters.

The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will cross the river at 6 a. m. and await orders on the opposite side.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 26, 1865—2 p. m.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your communication. I started a dispatch from here about 8 o'clock last night, directing you to move forward at daylight this a. m. The roads are good between your camp and here.

Respectfully,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Hough's Bridge, S. C., February 26, 1865.

Capt. C. CADLE, Jr.,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Seventeenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that this crossing was vacated for my command at 5.45 p. m. to-day. The road was so badly destroyed as to make it impracticable to pass my train, the bottom having utterly given out in some places, and the turns necessary to keep an army wagon from going out of sight, rendered it impossible to get a pontoon wagon on the bridge. I set a heavy force at work, and by midnight will have a good bridge and corduroy entirely across. Will move at daylight.

I have the honor to be, captain, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. F. FORCE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Ingraham's House, S. C., February 26, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: The general-in-chief would like to hear all the news from General Davis which you get during the night as soon as you can let him; he also thinks you should hold the Twentieth Corps in its present camp until General Davis has crossed the river and began his march.

I am, general, respectfully, &c.,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
East Bank of Catawba River, February 26, 1865—9 a. m.

Captain DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Left Wing:

CAPTAIN: Misfortunes never come single. The work of crossing the trains was continued last night until about 12.30 o'clock, when the bridge gave way in the center. All the boats but two have been recovered. The balking and planking were lost. The river is still rising, and it is doubtful if the anchors will hold the boats in their places against the heavy current. Material to reconstruct the bridge is being gathered from houses, and an attempt to relay it will be made as soon as possible. The roads still continue to be impassable, and corduroy has to be made in every direction where a wagon is to be driven. The weather seems to indicate signs of clearing off. If so, the river, I think, will soon run down and the roads dry up so as to enable us to get on. In the meantime say to the general that we will not lose one moment.

I am, very respectfully,

JEF. C. DAVIS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING,
February 26, 1865—10 p. m.

Major-General DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: General Sherman has ordered the Twentieth Corps to remain in its present camp until your corps crosses the river. He has also sent orders to Howard to advance no farther until further orders. He feels extremely anxious about your situation. I hope you will succeed in crossing to-morrow. If you cannot repair your present bridge it seems to me that your best course will be to start at daylight and lay the bridge at Peay's Ferry, where Howard crossed, sending the trains already over with Morgan's division directly to this point. By this course I think you can get everything over to-morrow, and can then push on here via Liberty Hill and Russell Place. Please let me hear from you as often as possible.

Very respectfully,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Hanging Rock Post-Office, February 26, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Military Division of the Mississippi:

MAJOR: I have the honor to make the following reply to the communication of General Kilpatrick, inclosed herewith.* General Kilpatrick has been misinformed, and has had his feelings strongly excited by false statements. General Geary's division with his train and about 100 cavalry-wagons were held in readiness to cross the bridge at Rocky Mount Ferry all the afternoon of the 23d instant. The train of Geary's division commenced crossing at 5 p. m. I was with it, and informed General Geary in person that General Kilpatrick would be entitled to the bridge at 7 o'clock, unless General Sherman postponed the hour for which application had been made. General Kilpatrick should not forget that delay of General Geary was caused mainly by crossing more than 200 of his own wagons now with this corps. Under General Sherman's order General Kilpatrick could have taken the bridge at 7 o'clock. No order or instructions of mine to General Geary could have prevented it of course. General Geary was confident, however, that with his whole division to assist his trains he could complete the crossing by 7.30 to 8 o'clock. The five cavalrymen who were punished by my provost-marshal (not while the whole corps marched by, but for fifteen minutes, as the provost-marshal reports) were found by a commissioned officer throwing the furniture of an old woman into the streets and threatening to burn her house. They were a part of the detail attached to the cavalry train, which is, and has been from Sister's Ferry, with my command. While with me I take it for granted they are subject to my orders and to such discipline as I may think for the good of the service. Still, as soon as I heard of the case I directed the provost-marshal to return them to Major Dunbar, assistant quartermaster, in charge of the cavalry wagons, with a statement of their offense.

In regard to the detail sent out by Major Dunbar, assistant quartermaster cavalry, and the captured ten mules and four horses, I have this to say: Major Dunbar is now, and was then, temporarily with my command and subject to my orders. He violated an order which pro-

* See p. 554.

hibited any foraging party from preceding the head of my column, under penalty of arrest and forfeiture of all animals and supplies taken from the country. Yet in this case, when brought to my notice, I directed the animals to be returned, and seventeen mules (the horses could not be recognized) were given to Major Dunbar, assistant quartermaster, as an equivalent for the four horses and ten mules, with which arrangement, I am assured, he expressed entire satisfaction. In both these cases I relaxed a rule which I should have enforced on my own command (though the offenders were temporarily under my command) in a sincere and earnest spirit of conciliation, courtesy, and good will toward General Kilpatrick and his valuable command. I do not believe that any man of my command has intentionally destroyed forage. In the marches of nearly a year through Georgia and this State, I have never found an instance in which forage has been destroyed by my men. Besides, my corps has never been on the road indicated by General Kilpatrick, but was marching directly from it. Be that as it may, I will thank General Kilpatrick, or any other general officer, to punish on the spot any man of this command found burning forage or pillaging the houses of decrepit old women. Or if he will return them to me with a statement of the case, I shall most assuredly not endeavor to screen them on the denial of the offenders alone. General Kilpatrick speaks of his ability to "retaliate," as though I had sent out men to harass his column, or had personally endeavored to affront him in some way. It would be puerile in me to disavow any such intention, and I really must protest against being held responsible for the conduct of bummers and stragglers. I have the most kind and respectful feelings toward General Kilpatrick and his command, and I regret exceedingly to find that the irritated tone of his communication does not indicate a reciprocity of the feeling on his part. I shall endeavor, however, to take good care of his 250 wagons and his small detail with it, as I have done for the last month, and to avoid all real causes of complaint or ill-feeling. I earnestly desire to cultivate a feeling of harmony and good feeling between the different commands, and in that spirit I respectfully request that General Kilpatrick be not permitted to "retaliate" by putting in force the order he announces in his communication.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Hanging Rock, S. C., February 27, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded.

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Hanging Rock, S. C., February 27, 1865.

Referred to General Kilpatrick for perusal and return to this office. There is no need of rejoinder. I take it for granted all general officers will accept a disclaimer without discussion or question.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Hanging Rock Post-Office, S. C., February 26, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow toward Lynch's Creek in the following order: Second Division, First Division, Third Division. General Geary will start his command at 6.30 a. m. The other divisions will follow in the above order. The troops of the Second Division will march unencumbered in the advance, and will repair the roads so as to make them passable for the trains. General Jackson will dispose of his troops so as to cover the trains of the Second and First Divisions. General Ward will detail three regiments as rear guard. The artillery will march in the same positions as to-day, viz, one section with the rear guard, one battery in rear of General Geary's advanced brigade, the balance in rear of the troops of General Geary's division. The artillery ammunition train will march in rear of the train of the Second Division. Every effort will be made by the advanced division to make the roads passable for the trains, but the troops of the First and Third Divisions must be used to make such repairs as the passage of our heavy trains render necessary, and will be kept with the trains to which they are assigned.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Hanging Rock Post-Office, February 26, 1865.

Brevet Major-General GEARY, *Commanding Second Division:*

GENERAL: The brevet major-general commanding the corps directs me to inform you that the order for the movement of this corps for to-morrow is suspended until further orders. This delay is occasioned by the Fourteenth Corps not coming up as expected. When the movement takes place it will be in order heretofore prescribed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Hanging Rock Post-Office, S. C., February 26, 1865.

Brigadier-General WARD, *Commanding Third Division:*

GENERAL: The brevet major-general commanding directs me to inform you that owing to the delay of the Fourteenth Corps the movement of this corps ordered for to-morrow will not take place until further orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY COMMAND, ARMY OF INVASION,
In the Field, Lancaster, S. C., February 26, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. C. DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am encamped at Lancaster. The roads are very bad, and the streams much swollen. Please inform me where you will

encamp to-night, that I may protect your left flank. I cannot move until to-morrow morning. The enemy are strongly picketing the roads to Charlotte and Monroe.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Cavalry.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 6. } HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, *Charleston, S. C., February 26, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

III. Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig is assigned temporarily to the command of the Defenses of Charleston, and of the troops heretofore constituting the First Separate Brigade, except such as have been or are now serving with the Coast Division.

IV. The One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers having been designated by the department commander as the permanent garrison of Charleston is hereby relieved from duty with the Coast Division. Its commander will report to Lieut. Col. Stewart L. Woodford for duty.

V. The Twenty-first U. S. Colored Troops will as soon as relieved from its present duty form part of the garrison of Charleston. Its commander, Lieut. Col. A. G. Bennett, will report to Lieutenant-Colonel Woodford in accordance with this order.

VI. The headquarters of the district will be at No. 13 King street, Charleston.

JOHN P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, N. C., February 26, 1865.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: I respectfully request that Bvt. Brig. Gen. G. W. Schofield may be assigned to duty according to his brevet rank in order that he may be placed in command of a brigade.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, N. C., February 26, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I am informed that a portion of my supply train left in Kentucky has been ordered to Washington, and that it is contemplated to turn it into the general depot, and require my quartermaster to draw from the general supply. I respectfully request that this may

not be done. My train was gotten up with great pains. The teams are good and well broken and the drivers experienced. I think my staff officers and the troops they are serving should have the benefit of the labor they have expended in organizing this train. We will at best have trouble enough with the raw teams drawn in Washington.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 15. } ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, N. C., February 26, 1865.

* * * * * * *

III. Companies B, G, and L, First Connecticut Artillery, are relieved from duty with the garrison at Fort Fisher, N. C., and will proceed to Broadway Landing, James River, Va., and report for duty with their regiment. Captain Pride will turn over the 30-pounder cannon, with equipments, ammunition, &c., for which he is responsible, to the commanding officer of Company A, Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery. Proper invoices and receipts will be exchanged. The quartermaster's department will furnish all necessary transportation.

* * * * * * *

V. The following assignments and orders made by Maj. Gen. J. D. Cox, on the 22d instant, are approved and confirmed: Col. O. W. Sterl, One hundred and fourth Ohio Infantry, to command the post of Wilmington; Lieut. Col. William J. Jordan, One hundred and fourth Ohio Infantry, to be provost-marshal of Wilmington. The One hundred and fourth Ohio Infantry to be provost-guard of Wilmington.

* * * * * * *

X. The steamer Russia will run regularly between Wilmington and Morehead City to carry the military mails. She will leave Wilmington every alternate day, commencing February 26, at 3 p. m., and return on the following day, starting from Morehead City habitually at 5 p. m.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, N. C., February 26, 1865.

HENRY M. DRAIN,
Superintendent Wilmington and Manchester Railroad:

SIR: You are hereby authorized and requested to bring to Wilmington without delay all rolling stock and other movable property belonging to your railroad under the following conditions, viz: Protection will be given to yourself and all employés of the road who may come in with the trains. I will take possession of the property on the part of the United States for Government use, and when no longer required by the Government will cause it to be returned to the railroad company. The property and general interest of the railroad company will be pro-

tected so far as it can be done consistently with the requirements of military operations. This offer is extended through you to the agents of the roads connecting with yours from the south.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
No. 43. } *Northeast Station, N. C., February 26, 1865.*

I. Brig. Gen. Charles J. Paine, commanding Third Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps, will send out a force of 200 good infantry to-morrow morning to reconnoiter the country on this side of the Northeast River and in front of our lines, to return to-morrow night. The commanding officer of the Sixteenth New York Light Battery and Light Company E, Third U. S. Artillery, will each send with the expedition one commissioned officer and twelve enlisted men for the purpose of procuring horses for their batteries, but in no case will they take all the animals from any plantation, leaving at least one horse or mule. The senior officer of the whole force will have command of the reconnaissance and will receive his instructions from Brigadier-General Paine.

By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *February 27, 1865.*

HON. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Following from Richmond Examiner:

In the absence of official information of military affairs in the Carolinas, we take nothing from other sources of intelligence, and omit the usual references to our file of Southern exchanges. We do so at the request of the authorities, and with the understanding that the other city journals have been put under obligations of reticence to the extent indicated above. The public, no doubt, will be properly patient in this interval of silence and not take it as discouragement, for we are assured that there are good reasons for it, which look to an early official announcement of favorable results.

Richmond Dispatch:

General Joseph E. Johnston on Thursday evening last assumed command of the army in Sherman's front, lately commanded by General Beauregard.

Richmond Whig:

Charlotte, February 24.—We are indebted to the enterprise of the Southern Express Company for Augusta papers to the 20th instant. No important military movements are reported. Captain Dickison captured several officers and a considerable number of enlisted men during the recent Yankee raid in Florida. General N. B. Forrest has been placed in command of all the cavalry in the Districts of Mississippi, East Louisiana, and West Tennessee. His first general order promises the reorganization of the cavalry, with the restoration of discipline. He threatens to exterminate all Confederate stragglers, robbers, and deserters. General Thomas' troops are being mounted for a supposed march through Alabama. Raids have been made from Hernando, Miss., toward Senatobia. Many complaints of General Kirby Smith are made in the West. General Wofford is in command at Atlanta. Reorganization in Georgia has already commenced. Re-enforcements from Northern Mississippi have been sent to Grant. Large bodies of troops are moving in the West, and important movements are reported. The Legislature of Mississippi is about to convene in extra session, for the purpose, it is said, of calling a State convention. The Georgia Legislature convened on the 14th instant at Macon.

Charlotte, February 24.—There is no alarm here. The enemy are reported moving in the direction of ———. During the retreat from Columbia a train of cars, filled with ladies, broke down, exposing them to the danger of capture by Yankees. From the best information received here it appears probable that a considerable conflagration occurred in the western portion of Columbia, occasioned, it is supposed, by the cotton ignited in the streets. It is reported that the fire extended from Main street to the Charlotte depot, nearly three-quarters of a mile. The information is positive as to the occurrence of the fire, but doubt is entertained as to its magnitude. Some of the refugees from Columbia are preparing to return.

Charlotte, February 25.—No additional news from the front. It is supposed still that the enemy are making their way to ———. The news from Columbia corroborates the kind treatment of the inhabitants. The Ursuline Convent was protected by a guard. No public property was allowed to be burned in the city. Sherman's headquarters were at Nickerson's Hotel. The alarm in Charlotte has subsided. The weather is bad and the roads heavy, interfering with rapid military movements.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, February 27, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN, U. S. Army:

GENERAL: Your communication of the 24th instant reached me to-day. In it you state that it has been officially reported that your foraging parties are "murdered" after capture. You go on to say that you have "ordered a similar number of prisoners in our hands to be disposed of in like manner;" that is to say, you have ordered a number of Confederate soldiers to be "murdered." You characterize your order in proper terms, for the public voice, even in your own country, where it seldom dares to express itself in vindication of truth, honor, or justice, will surely agree with you in pronouncing you guilty of murder if your order is carried out. Before dismissing this portion of your letter, I beg to assure you that for every soldier of mine "murdered" by you, I shall have executed at once two of yours, giving in all cases preference to any officers who may be in my hands.

In reference to the statement you make regarding the death of your foragers, I have only to say that I know nothing of it; that no orders given by me authorize the killing of prisoners after capture, and that I do not believe my men killed any of yours, except under circumstances in which it was perfectly legitimate and proper that they should kill them. It is a part of the system of the thieves whom you designate as your foragers to fire the dwellings of those citizens whom they have robbed. To check this inhuman system, which is justly execrated by every civilized nation, I have directed my men to shoot down all of your men who are caught burning houses. This order shall remain in force so long as you disgrace the profession of arms by allowing your men to destroy private dwellings.

You say that I cannot, of course, question your right to forage on the country—"It is a right as old as history." I do not, sir, question this right. But there is a right older, even, than this, and one more inalienable—the right that every man has to defend his home and to protect those who are dependent on him; and from my heart I wish that every old man and boy in my country who can fire a gun would shoot down, as he would a wild beast, the men who are desolating their land, burning their homes, and insulting their women.

You are particular in defining and claiming "war rights." May I ask if you enumerate among these the right to fire upon a defenseless city without notice; to burn that city to the ground after it had been

surrendered by the inhabitants who claimed, though in vain, that protection which is always accorded in civilized warfare to non-combatants; to fire the dwelling houses of citizens after robbing them; and to perpetrate even darker crimes than these—crimes too black to be mentioned?

You have permitted, if you have not ordered, the commission of these offenses against humanity and the rules of war; you fired into the city of Columbia without a word of warning; after its surrender by the mayor, who demanded protection to private property, you laid the whole city in ashes, leaving amidst its ruins thousands of old men and helpless women and children, who are likely to perish of starvation and exposure. Your line of march can be traced by the lurid light of burning houses, and in more than one household there is now an agony far more bitter than that of death. The Indian scalped his victim regardless of age or sex, but with all his barbarity he always respected the persons of his female captives. Your soldiers, more savage than the Indian, insult those whose natural protectors are absent.

In conclusion, I have only to request that whenever you have any of my men "murdered" or "disposed of," for the terms appear to be synonymous with you, you will let me hear of it, that I may know what action to take in the matter. In the meantime I shall hold fifty-six of your men as hostages for those whom you have ordered to be executed.

I am, yours, &c.,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Tiller's Bridge, S. C., February 27, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Your dispatch just received. I have just sent a cipher message as you desired. The Lynch is over its banks a mile wide and now swimming deep. We will do well to get our trains across to-day. I am sorry for the accident at the Catawba. They should make platforms and ferry over the balance of their wagons. But I suppose they know best.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Tiller's Bridge, S. C., February 27, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Owing to the freshet, the orders of march for to-day are so modified as to make the first stage, to get everything across the Lynch as soon as it can be done, and then begin the march on Cheraw, for which three days will be designated.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Tiller's Bridge, S. C., February 27, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that my division is still occupying the position as stated in my communication of last night. My pioneer corps, as well as troops of my command, have been busily engaged during the day in constructing an infantry crossing over Big Lynch's Creek. They have been much interfered with by the engineer party there at work, so that my labor is not so far advanced as it would otherwise have been.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Kelly's Bridge, S. C., February 27, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that this division has remained at this point to-day waiting subsidence of the water. The river at this point has fallen about three inches, and I am expecting to commence crossing early to-morrow. My headquarters are at the bridge.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Tiller's Bridge, S. C., February 27, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: A letter just received from General Sherman directs us to move slowly, on account of some unavoidable delay of the Left Wing, so that the march to Cheraw can be extended to four days instead of three. The general directs that you need do nothing further to-day than cross Lynch's Creek, with everything in readiness to move to-morrow. When you move, keep the column well closed up. It is reported by deserters that General Hardee is moving from Florence toward Charlotte with 100 guns and a long train, with about 4,000 or 5,000 men guarding them. The general wishes you to find out all you can in regard to his movements. The rear of his column was supposed to be at Cheraw last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Tiller's Bridge, S. C., February 27, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: If the water continues to fall General Logan can get his trains over in the morning at this place and at Kelly's, and the

moment he can do it I will have him push a division to the Big Black. Please, therefore, move only to McDonald's, establishing your crossing; make every possible effort to get your wagons filled with bread stuffs.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 54. } *Young's Bridge, near Lynch's Creek, February 27, 1865.*

The movement on Cheraw will be continued to-morrow.

Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will have the advance and will move forward at 7 a. m.

The First Regiment Michigan Engineers, Col. J. B. Yates commanding, will follow the troops of the First Division with their ambulances and tool-wagons. Their train will follow the train of the First Division.

Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will follow the First Division.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will follow the Third Division and be prepared to move at 9 o'clock.

The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry, Col. S. T. Hughes commanding, will move forward at 6.30 a. m. The pontoon train will follow the train of the Third Division.

The troops will move by the side of the train, keeping to the right.

Corps headquarters train will move with the train of First Division headquarters.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Lynch's Creek, S. C., February 27, 1865.

Capt. C. CADLE, Jr.,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Seventeenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report my command in camp about three-quarters of a mile from the bridge. I propose, it meeting your approbation, to cross all my train to-night and let the troops remain this side until morning. In the event of a heavy rain and the water rising will move at once.

I am, captain, very truly, yours,

M. F. FORCE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 27, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that he wishes your train to follow the Fourth Division train, which will cross as soon as the First Division train is over. You will park your train and the

pontoon in the first field on right hand side of road coming this way, after crossing. The train of the First Division, and perhaps part of the Fourth Division, will be in the same field. You may keep your men in their present camp to-night and move them over early in the morning. Your position will be second in column, following the First Division, which will start at 7 a. m.

Very respectfully,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 27, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: I sent you orders this evening to cross your trains to-night and leave your troops in their present camp till morning. It will be late before you have the bridge, but you will be all right to take your place in the morning by pushing your train over to-night.

Very respectfully,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 48. } *Lynch's Creek, S. C., February 27, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

II. The hour of marching is 6.30 a. m. to-morrow.

The First Brigade, Col. C. Fairchild commanding, will have the advance.

The Second Brigade, Col. G. F. Wiles commanding, will follow the First Brigade.

The artillery and trains will move in the usual order.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Rocky Mount Crossing, Catawba River,
February 27, 1865—1.30 p. m.

Captain DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Your communication is just received. Major Guindon dispatched the general commanding this morning. The bridge is being laid in a new place and bids fair of being a success. The current was thought to be still too rapid at the old one immediately below the falls. The bridge will probably be done by 4 o'clock this evening, and I shall make every exertion to cross and be on the march to-morrow morning at daylight. This is the best that can possibly be hoped for under the circumstances. I am doing everything that man can do, but I cannot dry up the river that separates my command; it has fallen about eighteen inches and is still falling. I do not know what the emergency is in the front, but presume it must be very great, judging by the general's dispatches, and am working accordingly. Kilpatrick reported to me

from Lancaster yesterday, but has not reported to-day. I should like him to remain on my flank, as it will enable me to march more securely and, of course, more rapidly.

I am, very respectfully,

JEF. C. DAVIS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

THREE MILES FROM ROCKY MOUNT—3.30 p. m.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of Major-General Sherman. I shall go to the bridge and see that no time is lost. I think the Twentieth Army Corps can move to-morrow safely. I will press the Fourteenth forward as rapidly as possible.

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Ingraham's House, S. C., February 27, 1865.

Brevet Major-General WILLIAMS,
Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: The general-in-chief directs that you move your corps to-morrow, February 28, to the road leading from Lancaster to Blakeny's Bridge, at or near Horton's Tavern.

I am, general, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Hanging Rock Post-Office, S. C., February 27, 1865.

Capt. R. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Left Wing:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that Lieutenant Kirkwood, Nineteenth Michigan Volunteers, in charge of a foraging party, yesterday met a party of Kilpatrick's cavalry foraging about four miles from Lancaster, who stated that Kilpatrick had two brigades encamped at Lancaster.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Hanging Rock Creek, S. C., February 27, 1865.

This corps will move to-morrow to the vicinity of Horton's Tavern, in the same order and under the same directions as prescribed in the order published from these headquarters yesterday. General Geary will start at 6.30 a. m. General Jackson following will dispose of his troops to cover his own and General Geary's trains.

General Ward will break camp in time to close up to the rear of the First Division trains.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Hanging Rock Creek, S. C., February 27, 1865.

Brevet Major-General GEARY,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The brevet major-general commanding the corps desires that you send one regiment in advance of your column to-morrow, starting at 5.30 a. m., to push on as rapidly as possible, to get possession and hold the bridge over Little Lynch's Creek. The bearer, one of our scouts, will go with the regiment and guide it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Since writing the above the general has ordered that the regiment start at 4 a. m.

Respectfully,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 18.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Hanging Rock Post-Office, February 27, 1865.

This command will change camp to the other side of Hanging Rock Creek, moving at 2 p. m., in the same order as the next march—Second, Third Brigades.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary:

W. T. FORBES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY COMMAND, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
Lancaster, S. C., February 27, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I am still encamped at Lancaster, holding the roads running in the direction of Charlotte and Monroe. Wheeler is holding the country in that direction. Hampton is in command. Wheeler reports to him. Such is my information. The enemy are under the impression that General Davis, Fourteenth Army Corps, is at or near this point, and that our intention is to move upon Charlotte by way of Monroe. The enemy is now intrenching, to hold the roads in that direction. I have made demonstrations on all roads in that direction, and have been met each time by the enemy in strong force. Hampton has received your communication. General Butler's cavalry, of Hampton's command, is moving on your immediate front in direction of, I think, Hickory Head. I shall move parallel to Davis, who expects to be at Pleasant Hill Post-Office to-night. I think I shall move on road by way of Nelson's, Montgomery's, and, unless I think the enemy too strong, by Plyer's, and thence across the headwaters of Lynch's Creek; otherwise cross the creek at French Creek Steam Mill. I shall move rather upon the left and rear of Davis, that the enemy may be deceived as long as possible as to our real direction of march and to protect his flanks from an attack, which the enemy certainly could make at almost

any point, owing to the great number of roads. The country here is good; forage plenty. My command has been resting for two days, and is in better condition than at any time during the march. We have captured a large number of mules and some horses, and have mounted all my dismounted men, save 300. I think Hampton's and Wheeler's forces combined amount to about 6,000 fighting men. Notwithstanding this superiority of numbers, I shall attack if a favorable opportunity offers. The road upon which I shall march is the best in the country. I will keep you advised daily as to my operations and position.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Hanging Rock, February 27, 1865.

Major-General KILPATRICK,
Lancaster:

GENERAL: Your letter is just received. It is all important that you keep me advised. Davis was slow in using the bridge and it carried away and was not mended until to-day. He will be all over to-night.

The movement you describe is the proper one, to keep on the left rear of the left infantry corps. I have word from Howard that will put him near Cheraw to-morrow night, and I shall push to meet him, but must wait till General Davis gets along; probably will be about Horton's Tavern to-morrow night. Keep feeling the different roads toward Charlotte till you hear General Davis is well toward the head of Lynch's Creek and then draw off. General Howard captured a good many horses and mules and some militia. He will send a division, light, to Florence simply to break that road and prevent the removal of any more railroad stock. There is little doubt our troops are in Charleston, and General Howard reports that a dispatch reached Camden yesterday that we also had taken Wilmington. In that event the enemy will collect all his forces about Raleigh as soon as he sees I am not coming to Charlotte. Keep me advised daily; a dispatch sent to the nearest corps, to be forwarded, will answer the purpose, but I think Hampton will draw off as soon as he feels General Howard's approach to Cheraw. General Howard is moving on the two roads from Young's and Tillersville.

General Slocum, Twentieth Corps, will probably pass at Blakeny's and General Davis at McManus'. You will have no trouble with Lynch's Creek, as it is passable anywhere above McManus'.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 28.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY COMMAND, ARMY OF INVASION,
In the Field, Lancaster, S. C., February 27, 1865.

1. At 6 a. m. to-morrow, February 28, General Atkins, commanding Second Brigade, will send a regiment to relieve Colonel Spencer's pickets and will remain in his present position until 12 m., when further orders will be sent him.

II. Colonel Spencer, Third Brigade, upon being relieved by General Atkins, will move with his command into town and move on a road, which will be indicated, to Nelson's Cross-Roads and take post, picketing Camp Creek and road to Monroe. Colonel Spencer will so manage his command as to induce the enemy to believe we are moving on Charlotte via Monroe.

III. Lieutenant-Colonel Way, commanding dismounted men, will, with his command, follow Colonel Spencer and co-operate with him.

IV. Colonel Jordan, commanding First Brigade, will remain with his command in camp till 12 m., when further orders will be sent him.

By command of Brevet Major-General Kilpatrick:

L. G. ESTES,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, February 27, 1865.

Major-General GILLMORE,
Hilton Head:

GENERAL: Your applications for more troops and for reorganization of Tenth Corps, referred to General Grant, have been returned disapproved. General Grant says that the orders to send all your surplus white troops to Wilmington must be complied with; that no offensive operations by your command into the interior is contemplated, and that if you require mounted men at Savannah you must get the horses there, as none can now be sent from here.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Charleston, S. C., February 27, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER OF U. S. SQUADRON,
Charleston Harbor:

SIR: I have the honor to state that in the city of Charleston no soldiers are allowed to go about without a proper pass approved by their commanding officers. In several instances sailors have been found in the city provided with no passes whatever, and I would therefore request that you will direct the commanding officers of the vessels of your squadron to provide all sailors with passes when they desire them to enter the city, and in no case to allow any sailor to be in the city after 6 p. m. Your early attention to this matter and reply will oblige,

Your obedient servant,

STEWART L. WOODFORD,
Lieutenant-Colonel 127th New York Volunteers and Comdg. Post.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 27, 1865.

Brig. Gen. E. E. POTTER:

Your dispatch to General Schimmelfennig is received. The Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry left here to-day to join you. After destroying

any rice mills in your vicinity you can fall back to Monk's Corner, where you will be joined by Colonel Van Wyck. You can then return to this place, sweeping the whole country on both banks of the Cooper River. Bring in with you all means of transportation you find in that country. Destroy all the rice mills and send the cotton in to the banks of the river, where steamers can reach it. It is reported that there is a cavalry force near the Cainhoy, on the Wando. I resumed command of the district yesterday. Reports from the North confirm the evacuation of Wilmington.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 7. } HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, *Charleston, S. C., February 27, 1865.*

The following-named officers are hereby appointed on the staff of the brigadier-general commanding the district:

Capt. Edgar B. Van Winkle, One hundred and third U. S. Colored Troops, aide-de-camp and chief of staff; Capt. W. W. Sampson, Thirty-third U. S. Colored Troops, acting assistant inspector-general; Capt. John H. Moore, assistant quartermaster, chief quartermaster; First Lieut. F. A. Wilcoxson, Third Rhode Island Artillery, acting assistant quartermaster; Capt. F. K. Smith, One hundred and twenty-seventh New York Volunteers, acting assistant quartermaster, in charge of railroad transportation; First Lieut. Henry Hagens, Fifty-fourth New York Volunteers, acting assistant quartermaster, depot quartermaster in charge of water transportation; Capt. Emil Marthell, chief of subsistence department and depot commissary; First Lieut. N. M. Edwards, First New York Volunteer Engineers, chief engineer; Capt. A. von Luttwitz, Fifty-fourth New York Volunteers, topographical engineer; Second Lieut. S. B. Starbird, Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, assistant topographical engineer; Capt. James W. Grace, Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, chief ordnance officer; Capt. Jeremiah Lanahan, Third Rhode Island Artillery, chief of artillery; Surg. George S. Burton, Third Rhode Island Artillery, chief medical officer; Capt. Thomas L. Appleton, Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, provost-marshal; First Lieut. T. C. Vidal, U. S. Army, chief signal officer; First Lieut. D. George McMartin, Twenty-first U. S. Colored Troops, aide-de-camp; Second Lieut. James McMillan, Thirty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops, aide-de-camp.

By command of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 8. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO, *Wilmington, N. C., February 27, 1865.*

I. Provost-marshals in this department will administer the oath of allegiance to such persons as come within the provisions of the amnesty proclamation of the President of the United States, provided they are satisfied that such persons desire in good faith to aid in restoring the national authority, and that they take the oath of allegiance cheerfully and voluntarily.

II. Reports will be made weekly to the provost-marshal-general, giving the name, age, and place of residence of every person who shall have subscribed to the oath of allegiance; also of all other adult white persons residing within the jurisdiction of each provost-marshal, together with such information as can be obtained touching the character and conduct of each individual.

III. Persons of known disloyalty, and those who shall by their language or their conduct manifest hostility to the Government of the United States, shall be sent beyond the lines of the army by an order from the provost-marshal-general, or be brought before a military commission for trial and punishment, according to the nature of the offense.

IV. Officers authorized by law to appoint general courts-martial are empowered to appoint military commissions, and to confirm and execute the sentences of such commissions with the same limitations as in the case of general courts-martial.

V. Commercial intercourse within the limits of this department will be governed strictly by the laws of the United States and the regulations of the Treasury Department, and will be limited to that which may be necessary to supply the wants of the loyal people residing within the lines of military occupation, and persons in the employ of the Government. None but persons of undoubted loyalty and good character will be permitted to trade within the limits of the department.

VI. Intercourse between towns occupied by the army, and the surrounding country within the lines of military occupation, will be permitted under regulations to be established by the provost-marshal-general for the purpose of enabling the inhabitants to supply themselves with the necessaries of life.

VII. The loyal people of the country residing within the lines of the army will be permitted to bring freely to market the products of their farms, and to receive in payment the currency of the United States. They will also be permitted to purchase family supplies from persons authorized to trade, upon permits granted by the local provost-marshals.

VIII. Railroads and telegraph lines are under special military protection. Any person who shall break, injure, or in any manner interfere with their military use, or shall fire into any railroad train or vessels navigating the waters of this department, shall be punished with death or otherwise at the discretion of a military commission.

IX. The destruction of property, public or private, is a waste of the national wealth, and alike injurious to the people and the Government. It is, therefore, to be avoided, except where military operations render it necessary. The highest commander present must alone be the judge of such necessity.

X. The troops will be supplied with such of the products of the country, especially vegetables, as are necessary for their health and comfort. This must be done by the proper staff officers, acting under the orders of the division and brigade commanders.

XI. Straggling and irregular foraging by individuals are prohibited and will be severely punished.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 16. } ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, N. C., February 27, 1865.

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II. Hereafter, and until further orders, Maj. Gen. D. N. Couch will command the Second and Third Divisions, Twenty-third Army Corps.

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XVI. The provost-marshal general, Department of North Carolina, will take possession of all cotton, rosin, turpentine, and other contraband property in the country under control of the army, and will turn the same over to an officer of the quartermaster's department to be designated by the chief quartermaster, who will receive and receipt for the same. All property so turned over will be stored in the city of Wilmington, and held subject to orders from these headquarters. The provost-marshal-general will cause an exact record to be kept of the time and place, where and when such property may be taken, and of its quantity, quality, and condition. Also the name and residence of the apparent owners or claimants in each case. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

XVII. Colonel McQuiston's brigade, First Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, now at Fort Anderson, will move without delay to Morehead City. The commanding officer will report by telegraph from the latter place to Maj. Gen. J. D. Cox, at New Berne, N. C., for further orders. The quartermaster's department will furnish transportation by steamer.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ON BOARD STEAMER ESCORT,
Federal Point, February 27, 1865.

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A continuous storm has as yet prevented the Escort from leaving here. I should have insisted upon the captain's trying it, but the vessels of the fleet here, which tried it with us, have been obliged to return. I hope we shall be off before night.

Very respectfully,

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 23D ARMY CORPS,
No. 5. } *Wilmington, N. C., February 27, 1865.*

I. Col. O. H. Moore, Twenty-fifth Michigan Volunteer Infantry, will at once report to his regiment for duty.

II. Col. John Mehringer, Ninety-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, will assume command of the Second Brigade of this division.

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By command of Major-General Couch:

CLINTON A. CILLEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, N. C., February 27, 1865.

Col. J. F. BOYD,
Chief Quartermaster, Washington City:

COLONEL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, in reference to the field transportation, &c., for this army. Am much obliged for the information contained. In reply, I am directed by the commanding general to inform you that he desires arrangements to be made to transport nine days' supplies in wagons, 160 rounds per man infantry ammunition, and one wagon for each piece of artillery. Do not let the Kentucky train be deserted. If necessary take the inclosed letter* from the commanding general to General Halleck. Return yourself as soon as all necessary arrangements for the shipment of transportation, &c., are made. You need not wait to see everything off. Have everything for General Ruger's division shipped to Beaufort, unless you have already started them to this point, in which case you need make no change in your orders; they can be easily sent back from Cape Fear. If you cannot procure citizen teamsters, arrangements can perhaps be made here to procure them, or they can be detailed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Tiller's Bridge, S. C., February 28, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

Logan is not yet across Lynch's Creek, but the crossing at Kelly's is almost ready, where he has two divisions. After the brigades of infantry were thrown over the water rose so fast that it could not be bridged. It is now subsiding rapidly.

Captain Duncan met two brigades of rebel cavalry near Mount Elon Post-Office, had a severe skirmish, and returned without being able to strike the railroad. Hampton's headquarters are reported at Darlington; Hardee at Cheraw, where a captured letter says a fight is expected some time next week. What force Hardee has I am unable to determine.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

P. S.—Blair is entirely across Lynch's Creek.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Tiller's Bridge, S. C., February 28, 1865.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE TENNESSEE:

SIR: I have the honor herewith to report that in compliance with Special Orders, No. 51, I assumed command of all the available mounted forces at these headquarters, and marched south on the west side of Lynch's Creek, crossing the same at Dubose's Bridge, and proceeded in the direction of Simonsville, on the Florence and Charleston

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* See p. 593.

Railroad, for the purpose of destroying the railroad bridges near that place. Lieut. John A. McQueen, commanding scouts, being in advance, struck the enemy's pickets, eight in number, two miles from Dubose's Bridge, charged and drove them within one mile and a half of Mount Elon, where I learned the enemy, 700 strong, was encamped; I also learned that Butler's division of cavalry was encamped near Wide Swamp. My information was received from negroes and citizens. Colonel Aiken, in command of the Fifth [Sixth] South Carolina Cavalry, coming from the direction of Mount Elon, being advised by the citizens of the strength and direction of our party, followed us, coming up with us at dark at the cross-roads three miles south of Mount Elon, engaged us and was repulsed after a brisk engagement, which was mostly a hand to hand conflict on account of the darkness, we being unable to distinguish friend from foe. List of casualties: Lieut. John A. McQueen, Company K, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry, commanding scouts, shot through the abdomen; Henry Irish, private, Company K, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry, shot through the abdomen; William G. Evans, private, Fourth Independent Company Ohio Cavalry, shot through the leg. Missing: Albert White, Fourth Independent Company Ohio Cavalry; Joseph Bedoll, scout; ——— Dawson, scout. The enemy's loss was much greater than ours; among the number Colonel Aiken and Lieutenant Smith were wounded. We captured 1 prisoner, a first sergeant, who stated that their force was 125 or 150 strong. We proceeded south, and deeming it unsafe to remain on the east side of Lynch's Creek, recrossed at Fields' Bridge and encamped at Bishopville, and returned to camp by the Lynch's Creek road. The conduct of the officers and men who accompanied me was unimpeachable.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. DUNCAN,

Captain, Commanding Company K, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Tiller's Bridge, S. C., February 28, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have just received a note from General Blair, written at 2.15 p. m. to-day. He was at that time thirteen miles from Cheraw, and going into camp. He found the bridge over the Big Black all right. Prisoners captured by him report six batteries and some other troops at Cheraw—the Charleston garrison. He found the country very barren, and collected breadstuff.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Tiller's Bridge, S. C., February 28, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report my position to be the same as of yesterday. My pioneers have been at work throughout the day at the cross-

ing over the river, but will not be able to complete their task before to-morrow. A staff officer sent this forenoon reports the route by way of McCrougan's and Young's Bridges to be in every way practicable, and the road entirely clear.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Tiller's Bridge, S. C., February 28, 1865.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM B. HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: On effecting a crossing of Lynch's Creek, the general commanding desires you to move to a good position and await further orders.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Tiller's Bridge, S. C., February 28, 1865.

Brevet Major-General CORSE,
Commanding Fourth Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to transmit herewith a copy of a note* just received from Major-General Howard relative to the advanced position occupied by the Seventeenth Corps and to invite your attention to the imperative necessity of effecting a crossing of Lynch's Creek with your whole command at the earliest moment practicable consistent with the preservation of your ammunition and subsistence.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Lynch's Creek, S. C., February 28, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that my division has remained in the position occupied by it on the evening of the 26th instant. Most of my train, as you are aware, being cut off from the division by the high water, is the reason for its remaining in bivouac. I have had heavy details at work on the road during the entire day, making it passable for my trains, and shall attempt to cross them at 8 p. m. I have pushed my mounted foraging details well to the front, and from different reports learn that no very important force of the enemy either threatens or is in close proximity to my front, but that a force simply sufficient to watch our movements is in this vicinity.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

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*See Van Dyke to Logan, p. 609.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Lynch's Creek, S. C., February 28, 1865.

Captain WILSON,
Act. Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: The trains of this division commenced crossing at 8.30 p. m., and I think we shall succeed in getting them over during the night, although it is quite difficult to judge of ground covered with water.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LOUIS H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

TILLER'S BRIDGE, S. C., *February 28, 1865—5 a. m.*

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The water has gone down very slowly. Corse thinks he will be able to commence crossing his train to-night. I do not wish you to push forward beyond Big Black Creek unsupported, as I am uncertain what force Hardee has. Do you hear anything from the Twentieth Corps? Captain Duncan has returned without striking the railroad. He had quite a skirmish near Mount Elon Post-Office. Lieutenant McQueen was badly wounded. Hampton's headquarters are said to be at Darlington. Do you find any supplies?

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Tiller's Bridge, S. C., February 28, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general to say that it is very doubtful whether General Logan will be able to cross with any of his wagons to-day. A part of the road on the other side of the creek, which was thought to be solid, has given way and it will be very difficult to corduroy it, as it is under water. You will govern your movements accordingly. The general does not desire you to move out too far to-day. It may be that we will have to take advantage of your crossing; would do it immediately, but that the crossing of Little Lynch is as bad as this.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Thirteen Miles from Cheraw, S. C., February 28, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: Butler's division of rebel cavalry passed up the Camden and Cheraw road, about two miles and a half from my camp, about 5 o'clock this p. m. A prisoner, taken in a skirmish with them, reports

that they are going to Cheraw and are about 1,200 strong. The Ninth Illinois found the enemy (infantry) in line about four miles and a half this side of Cheraw. Their line was over half a mile long. The Ninth Illinois skirmished with them until they found their strength, and then returned to camp. The cars have been running in and out of Cheraw all day, and the whistle blowing continually.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

P. S.—Deserters report that the garrisons of Wilmington and Charleston collecting at Cheraw are strong, and that they expect to make a stand there.

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

General Joe Johnston is in command at Cheraw; Beauregard and Hardee are there also.

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Thirteen Miles from Cheraw, S. C., February 28, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that there will probably be no movement to-morrow. He wishes you to load your empty wagons with corn if possible, sending strong guards with trains.

Very respectfully,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Thirteen Miles from Cheraw, S. C., February 28, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding instructs me to direct you to intrench your front line to-night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Hanging Rock, S. C., February 28, 1865—7 a. m.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: Yours of 10 p. m. 27th just received. General Sherman instructs me to say General Kilpatrick is still at Lancaster. When General Davis passes this road you should notify General Kilpatrick, in order that he may conform his movements to General Davis'.

I am, general, with respect, &c.,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General,

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Crossing of Catawba River, February 28, 1865.

The delay at this point renders necessary the utmost energy to retrieve lost time. Every means must be taken to prepare the command for rapid and forced marching. All carriages, buggies, forage wagons, ox teams, and other unauthorized vehicles, must be immediately destroyed. Any mules required by circular of February 19 to be turned over to Colonel Moore, commanding pontoniers, and not yet turned over, will be at once sent to him, even if it requires the abandonment of transportation, and if any additional mules can be sent to him from any command it will be highly appreciated by the corps commander. The mobility and the efficiency of the pontoon train is of vital importance to the movements of the army.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 17. } HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Crossing Catawba River, S. C., February 28, 1865.

The advance will be resumed to-day as follows:

General Morgan will march immediately upon the road via Warrenton, thoroughly repairing it as he goes, for the passage of the trains of the corps, and will advance as far as he thinks he can bring up his trains to-night. His trains will be given the advance. The reserve artillery and ammunition trains will be reported to General Morgan and will move in rear of his division and under his orders.

General Baird will be at once relieved from duty on the roads near the river by General Carlin, and will move to a position in advance of the present camp of General Morgan. As soon as the fifth chains for his wagons can be obtained from the bridge he will push on with his trains in rear of General Morgan.

General Carlin, relieving General Baird with two of his brigades, will urge on the passage of the trains and troops, and will post a battery on the heights to cover the passage of his rear brigade and the raising of the pontoon bridge. He will receive further orders during the day.

The delay caused by the breaking of the bridge, and the consequent wide separation of the corps from the remainder of the army, makes it imperative upon all to push the advance now with the utmost energy and rapidity.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 18. } HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Crossing Catawba River, S. C., February 28, 1865.

The corps will move to-morrow as follows:

General Morgan, marching at daybreak, will push forward as rapidly as possible on the road taken by the Twentieth Corps.

General Baird, marching at daylight, will follow General Morgan.

General Carlin will follow General Baird.

The reserve artillery and ammunition trains will move with and report to General Morgan until further orders.

Corps headquarters trains will move in the rear of General Baird.

Each division commander will take charge of his own supply train, and until further orders, starting at daylight each morning, will make the greatest distance possible each day (without changing the order of march), reporting position to the corps commander every evening.

From all information obtained the corps commander believes that no considerable force threatens our flanks. Each division commander will, therefore, at once drive off any bands that may harass his march and push forward without delay.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
February 28, 1865.

Lieut. Col. A. C. McCLURG,
Asst. Adjt. Gen. and Chief of Staff, Fourteenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I know the general commanding is uneasy about the roads. I have reached the point where the corduroying of the Twentieth Corps commenced. I see no difficulty whatever in passing the trains of the corps over the road up to this place. I consider it a perfect God's country compared with the infernal hills about the Catawba River. Every effort will be made to push forward as far as possible to night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES D. MORGAN,
Brigadier-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Horton's Store, S. C., February 28, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow to Miller's Bridge, over Lynch's Creek, in the following order: First Division, Third Division, Second Division. General Jackson will start at 6.30 a. m. General Ward will leave his present camp early enough to close up to the rear of the train of the First Division. The troops of the First Division will march unencumbered in the advance. General Ward will distribute his troops so as to cover the trains of the First and Third Divisions. General Jackson will use his troops to repair all the bad places in the road, but the troops of the other divisions must be kept with the trains and in readiness to make any necessary repairs to the road. General Geary will march one brigade as a rear guard. One section of artillery will march with the rear guard, the balance of the artillery in the same order as in the march of to-day. The artillery ammunition train will march in rear of the train of the First Division.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY COMMAND, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
In the Field, February 28, 1865—3 p. m.

[Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:]

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward you General Hampton's reply to your communication of yesterday.* I still hold Lancaster, and send you map indicating the position of my brigades. Hampton's forces seem to be holding Cane Creek. I am pushing a reconnaissance to-day well up the Charlotte road, and in direction of Monroe. My people have been as far up as the cross-roads at Plyer's, Nelson's, and Metler's, marked by stars on the map, and driven in the enemy's pickets. They are still advancing, with orders to push up the country as far as possible. Up to last evening the enemy felt certain that we were moving toward Charlotte, and I think my demonstrations of to-day will keep him of that opinion. Davis' stragglers are now coming into my column. I therefore infer that he is past Pleasant Hill Post-Office by this; he certainly has had time. I have sent out scouting parties to find out what progress he has made. I have eaten out the country about Lancaster, and here it is mighty poor. It won't pay to halt long at one place. I hope that General Davis will be so far advanced as to allow me to cross Lynch's Creek to-morrow. Please indicate to me the road upon which General Davis will march after crossing Lynch's Creek. I received this morning twenty of my prisoners in exchange for an equal number sent General Wheeler yesterday; in all, he has taken from me but one officer and thirty men since entering upon the present campaign. I have, over and above that number, seventy of his men and four commissioned officers. As I feel confident that I can keep even with him or Hampton in prisoners, if you will give permission, and any of the corps commanders desire it, for infantry officers and soldiers now in Wheeler's hands I will exchange the prisoners I now have on hand. Three infantry soldiers belonging to the Twentieth Army Corps represented themselves as belonging to my cavalry, and were exchanged last evening. They will be sent to their corps as soon as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Savannah, Ga., February 28, 1865.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding, &c., Hilton Head:

DEAR GENERAL: Your dispatch of yesterday is just received. General Beckwith thinks we cannot depend on the navy to furnish us promptly with any information they may gather of General Sherman's movements, and that on this account it would be very well to keep a dispatch boat at Georgetown, with orders to report without delay. We do not think it very likely that General Sherman will communicate through Georgetown; but as he distinctly directed a lookout to be kept for him there we wish not to lose any of the chances. We hear nothing from the interior or from Hood's army. Please inform me at once of any news from Wilmington or other point on the coast north

* See p. 596.

of you. The break in the telegraph isolates us. Any important news might be sent by special boat from Fort Pulaski. All very quiet here.

Very respectfully, your most obedient,

J. D. WEBSTER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 28, 1865.

Brig. Gen. JOHN P. HATCH,
Comdg. Northern Dist., Dept. of the South, Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that another regiment be sent to Georgetown without delay, so that that place shall be occupied by from 600 to 800 men, with instructions to intrench themselves. The major-general commanding also directs that Colonel Hallowell's brigade, as organized in the return of the Coast Division of February 4, be sent at once to Savannah, to report to Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. Grover. If the above changes render it necessary, you are authorized to withdraw General Potter's brigade from the front, but no time must be lost in making said changes. The major-general commanding further directs that a dispatch boat be sent to Georgetown to be used in carrying information or dispatches in case of necessity. It is important that any news from General Sherman's army requiring action on the part of the major-general commanding should be sent to him without delay.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 8.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 28, 1865.

I. All loyal citizens of the United States residing in Charleston or its vicinity are invited to call at the office of the post provost-marshal and register their names, take the oath of allegiance to the Government, and receive certificates of having done so.

II. Post or brigade commanders will grant no passes or other favors to persons (owing allegiance to the United States) who have not, by taking the oath, shown their loyalty to the Government.

III. No guards will be placed over the houses of citizens for the protection of private property. Any person fearing molestation will best secure their property by placing in some conspicuous position on the premises the flag of the United States. Persons detected in depredating on houses so protected will be punished with additional severity.

By command of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 28, 1865.

Brig. Gen. E. E. POTTER,
Commanding Division:

Please send the detachment of the Twenty-first now with you to this city to report to Colonel Woodford as soon as Colonel Van Wyck has

joined you. It is reported that there is quite a large body of the rebel cavalry on the Halfway Creek road. If this is confirmed by reports you may receive try and capture or disperse them. I will try to keep your troops supplied with rations by the Cooper and Wando Rivers.

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL DIVISION,
In the Field, Saint Stephen's Station, S. C.,
February 28, 1865—8 a. m.

General SCHIMMELFENNIG:

A railroad employé who came across the Santee last night reports that the enemy has left the other side of the river. The last of their infantry was about leaving Kingstree per rail for Cheraw. The cavalry and artillery marched by the road. He also reports Sherman forty miles north of Columbia, on the road to Charlotte. Beauregard is in his front, endeavoring to check him until the rebel forces can concentrate at Charlotte. The report of the capture of Wilmington is confirmed. I think it evident that Sherman intends to move directly to Raleigh without making any base at Charleston or Georgetown. In this event it would be impossible for me to overtake and communicate with him by crossing the Santee at this point and following the retreating rebels. They would always be between Sherman and this force. A more probable means of communicating with him would be by following his route from Columbia. The officer in charge of the steamer Bennett, with rations for this command, reported here last evening. All my wagons, nine in number, are on their way here with ammunition. I have ordered all the carts to go to the landing on the western branch, and bring what rations they can from the Bennett. Is it intended that the railroad bridges and trestles should be rebuilt, and if so, when will that work be probably finished? The constant rains will make the roads almost impassable, and with my present means of transportation I shall not be able to bring supplies, even from the western branch of Cooper River. There is nothing to prevent the tin-clads from coming up the Santee to this point. I must again request that the telegraph operator be sent here from Goose Creek. I have sent orders to him directly, but hear nothing of him. The telegraph wire is broken in one place only, I believe, between Saint Stephen's and Monk's Corner, and I think it is very little injured between the last place and Goose Creek. I shall order Major Place and the guard which was left at Goose Creek to rejoin their command. The small guard which is needed at the Goose Creek bridge can better be furnished from Charleston. If it be the intention to reconstruct the trestle-works below Saint Stephen's I can order Lieutenant-Colonel Fox, Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, who is a civil engineer, to commence the work. There is plenty of timber here already framed for the trestles. Will you have the goodness to forward a copy of this dispatch to the major-general commanding.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD E. POTTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—A small guard from the One hundred and forty-fourth New York Volunteers was left at Mount Pleasant. I should like to have them returned to their regiment as soon as possible.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, February 28, 1865.

Col. C. H. VAN WYCK,
Commanding Brigade, Goose Creek:

Leave three companies of your command as a guard at Goose Creek. If the troops now there as a guard belong to the Twenty-first U. S. Colored Troops, order them to report to Colonel Woodford, in Charleston. If they are part of a regiment with General Potter, order them to report to him at Monk's Corner.

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., February 28, 1865.

Col. E. N. HALLOWELL,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: You will send early this morning four companies of the best disciplined troops in your command under command of a discreet officer on the road toward Goose Creek to a point known as Thirteen-Mile Hill. It is represented that the blacks there are committing murders. The officer in command will be directed to induce the lately freed people to come into the city. He is authorized to seize any transportation he may find to convey the young, and those unable to travel, and the necessary baggage. He will enforce the strictest discipline in his own command, allowing no straggling or marauding. If necessary to prevent the latter he will make immediate example of such men as are found violating these orders, even to the extreme penalty of death. A strict guard must be kept over camp the night the command is absent. One day's rations will be taken and the command will return the following day.

By command of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION, SHERMAN'S ARMY,
Blair's Landing, S. C., February 28, 1865.

Captain BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the South:

CAPTAIN: I sent a reconnoitering party some thirty miles up the road from Pocotaligo Station (Sherman's road), which was unable to hear of any force whatever on the 26th. On the 27th Lieutenant-Colonel Henry, commanding at Pocotaligo Station, reports:

> I have information from contrabands of a force of rebels said to number some 300 to 500, composed of infantry and cavalry, commanded by Colonel Roberts (of Colonel Colcock's command of cavalry) and Captain Mickler, with a squad of infantry. They are near Beech Branch (twenty-five miles northwest from Coosawhatchie Station) and are scouting the country in that direction.

The sergeant in command of twenty-three men at Garden's Corners reports the station attacked with musketry for three hours night before last. No loss. I have sent a company there to remain and reconnoiter.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY PRINCE,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., February 28, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. GROVER,
Comdg. Savannah Dist., Dept. of the South, Savannah, Ga.:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you hold two brigades of your command that can be best spared in readiness to embark, to be sent beyond the limits of this department. You will call in all detailed men belonging to the regiments of these brigades, and report by letter and by telegraph the brigades thus selected and their aggregate strength. Four hundred men belonging to your command arrived to-day from the North and will be forwarded to you at once. A sufficient force necessary to replace the above brigades will be sent to Savannah without delay. Steamers will be sent to Savannah to-morrow to receive one brigade and transportation for the balance as soon as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 28, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States, City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: I have just received your letter of the 24th. Please accept my thanks for your generous appreciation of our success in the capture of Wilmington. My latest information of General Sherman is that on the 24th one of his main columns was about midway between Columbia and Charlotte, and the other seventeen miles from Camden on the road to Fayetteville. This comes from the mail carrier from Fayetteville, and is thought by those who know him to be reliable. I had supposed General Sherman farther advanced, but the roads are bad, and he probably has to move quite slowly. Very heavy rains have fallen lately. The roads in this region are very bad, but they will dry very quickly after the rain ceases. In the region General Sherman is marching through the mud will last much longer. I have men out to get information of his movements, but I find it extremely difficult to obtain any one at all trustworthy who is willing to carry a dispatch to him; but I hope to get one to-morrow. General Sherman can send to me much more easily, and no doubt has already done so. Hardee was ordered to this place from Charleston, but we came in just in time to cut him off. He then turned toward Fayetteville. I think Hoke will go in the same direction, and both try to unite with Beauregard about Greensborough. This I derive from a telegraph operator's report of the correspondence between Bragg and Hardee the day before we got Wilmington. My wagons and animals are coming very slowly. Storm and fog have made it impossible to cross Cape Fear bar for nearly all the time for several days. It must be four or five days yet before we can fairly begin work on the railroad. I had hoped much more from Palmer's movement, but he has done nothing. Instead of pushing out as ordered, he came here to see me about it, and was detained by the fog. He probably did not get back until to-day. I sent Cox back with him with orders to take command and move forward at once, so that the railroad could be repaired. I intend to move from here by the 5th or 6th with whatever transportation I can get by that time. If the rail-

road here is not ready for me I will push through and unite with Cox, unless I learn that Sherman is coming this way to get supplies here. His instructions to Colonel Wright were to have the road to Goldsborough ready for him by the 15th of March. That I think we can make, and will do more if possible. I hope when General Sherman hears I have Wilmington he will come in as far as Fayetteville. Then we will be all right, and can unite whenever we please. The cavalry has begun to arrive. A regiment will do very well for the present.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 9. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO, *Wilmington, N. C., February 28, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. J. W. Barriger, commissary of subsistence, is announced as a member of the departmental staff, and will relieve Lieut. Col. R. B. Treat, commissary of subsistence, as chief commissary of subsistence, Department of North Carolina.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, N. C., February 28, 1865.

Major-General COX:

GENERAL: I am sorry for your detention in getting started, but it was unavoidable. McQuiston's brigade did not get off until to-day, but do not wait for it. Time is very important. General Grant is very much disappointed at Palmer's tardiness. He was expected to have Kinston by the time we got Wilmington. I rely upon you to regain what has been lost. Let nothing detain you.

Yours, truly,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 1. } HDQRS. SECOND AND THIRD DIVISIONS, TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS, *Wilmington, N. C., February 28, 1865.*

In accordance with Special Orders, No. 16, paragraph 2, current series, headquarters Department of North Carolina, the undersigned hereby assumes command of the Second and Third Divisions of the Twenty-third Army Corps. Reports, returns, and official correspondence will be forwarded through these headquarters.

D. N. COUCH,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 45. } HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS, *Northeast Station, N. C., February 28, 1865.*

I. In accordance with the suggestion of Major-General Schofield, commanding the department, corps headquarters will be temporarily established at Wilmington, and all official papers from the command

will be forwarded thither. Division commanders are authorized to grant passes to cross our lines or to go to Wilmington. In the event of any military movement, Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. Ames will assume command of the troops at the front until the arrival of the major-general commanding. The corps officer of the day will be furnished this day from General Ames' command, to-morrow and the day following from General Paine's command, and again in the same succession until further orders, the detail being made from officers above the rank of major, not including brigade commanders. The old and new officers of the day will meet daily at 3 p. m. at headquarters Second Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps, for the purpose of exchanging instructions, and will communicate immediately to division commanders all matters of importance occurring during their tour of duty. They will forward, through their division commanders, a written report to these headquarters. Until further orders the Sixteenth New York Light Battery will report to Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. Ames, commanding Second Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps, and Light Company E, Third U. S. Artillery, to Brig. Gen. Charles J. Paine, commanding Third Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps.

By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 59. } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA, *New Berne, N. C., February 28, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

VI. The Ninth New Jersey Volunteers will proceed at once to New Berne, the commanding officer reporting on arrival at these headquarters. Quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

VII. The section of the Third New York Artillery now serving in the Sub-District of Beaufort will proceed at once to join their regiment at New Berne. Quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

VIII. The Seventeenth Massachusetts Volunteers will proceed at once to New Berne, the commanding officer reporting on arrival to Brig. Gen. S. P. Carter, U. S. Volunteers. Quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

IX. The headquarters of the First North Carolina (Union) Volunteers (this includes the old Second North Carolina Volunteers also) will be located at Morehead City, where all of that regiment, including the company ordered up from Hatteras, will at once be concentrated and encamped, except one company, which will be stationed at Beaufort and which will constitute the only garrison of that place. All other troops now at Beaufort will at once be transferred to Morehead City.

X. The commanding officer Second Massachusetts Artillery will send one company of his regiment to garrison Fort Macon. The commanding officer of that company will receive from the officer he relieves all the ordnance and ordnance stores and other public property pertaining to that post. The present commanding officer is directed to turn over the same, as of such condition as the receiving officer may see fit to determine.

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By command of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Abstract from returns of the U. S. forces under the immediate command of Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman, U. S. Army, for February 28, 1865.

Command.	Present for duty.*		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.
	Officers.	Men.			
General and staff	17	.....	17	17	.....
7th Company Ohio Sharpshooters	2	66	78	95	.....
1st Michigan Engineers (ten companies)	37	1,057	1,354	1,740	.....
1st Missouri Engineers (five companies)	10	310	471	566	.....
Army of the Tennessee:					
General and staff	21	.....	21	27	.....
Escort	4	47	94	140	.....
Signal detachment (McClintock)	3	24	27	31	.....
Fifteenth Army Corps (Logan)	773	14,739	18,320	28,714	18
Seventeenth Army Corps (Blair)	448	11,142	13,067	25,099	14
Total Right Wing (Howard)	1,249	25,952	31,529	54,011	32
Army of Georgia:					
General and staff	6	.....	6	8	.....
Pontoniers (Downey)	25	457	727	909	.....
Fourteenth Army Corps (Davis)	578	13,776	16,108	27,825	16
Twentieth Army Corps (Williams)	652	13,051	15,512	28,682	16
Total Left Wing (Slocum)	1,261	27,284	32,353	57,424	32
Cavalry (Kilpatrick)	177	4,259	5,156	9,354	6
Grand total	2,753	58,928	70,958	123,207	70

* For the effective strength, see Part I, p. 43.

[FEBRUARY 28, 1865.—For organization of troops under the immediate command of Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman, covering this date, see Part I, p. 46.]

Abstract from returns of the Department of North Carolina, Maj. Gen. John M. Schofield, U. S. Army, commanding, for February 28, 1865.

[Compiled mainly from subordinate returns.]

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
General and staff	9	.....	9	10	.....	.....
Company G, Seventh Ohio Cavalry (Ashbury)	3	64	64	87	.....	.....
Detachment Signal Corps (Daniels)	6	16	23	141	.....	.....
Twenty-third Army Corps (Schofield)	706	13,781	16,389	27,196	.....	(*)
Provisional Army Corps (Terry)	343	9,815	11,570	22,798	.....	10
District of North Carolina (Palmer)	248	6,478	8,439	12,148	101	63
Total	1,315	30,154	36,494	62,380	101	73
Total according to department return	1,145	28,947	34,003	61,701	.....	.....

* Not reported.

Organization of troops in the Department of North Carolina (Army of the Ohio), commanded by Maj. Gen. John M. Schofield, U. S. Army. February 28, 1865.

ESCORT.

7th Ohio Cavalry, Company G, Capt. John A. Ashbury.

SIGNAL CORPS.

Capt. NAHUM DANIELS.

TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. JOHN M. SCHOFIELD.

ENGINEER BATTALION.*

Capt. OLIVER S. MCCLURE.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS H. RUGER.

First Brigade.

Col. JOHN M. ORR.

120th Indiana, Col. Allen W. Prather.
124th Indiana, Lieut. Col. Henry H. Neff.
128th Indiana, Lieut. Col. Jasper Packard.
180th Ohio, Col. Willard Warner.

Second Brigade.

Col. JOHN C. MCQUISTON.

123d Indiana, Lieut. Col. Dewitt C. Walters.
129th Indiana, Col. Charles A. Zollinger.
130th Indiana, Col. Charles S. Parrish.
28th Michigan, Col. William W. Wheeler.

Third Brigade.

Col. MINOR T. THOMAS.

8th Minnesota, Capt. George F. Pettit.
174th Ohio, Col. John S. Jones.
178th Ohio, Col. Joab A. Stafford.

Artillery.

Indiana Light, 22d Battery, Capt. Edward W. Nicholson.
1st Michigan Light, Battery F, Capt. Byron D. Paddock.

SECOND DIVISION.†

Brig. Gen. NATHANIEL C. MCLEAN.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH A. COOPER.

26th Kentucky, Col. Thomas B. Fairleigh.
25th Michigan, Col. Orlando H. Moore.
6th Tennessee (seven companies), Lieut. Col. Edward Maynard.

Second Brigade.

Col. JOHN MEHRINGER.

107th Illinois, Maj. Thomas J. Milholland.
80th Indiana, Lieut. Col. Alfred D. Owen.
23d Michigan, Col. Oliver L. Spaulding.
111th Ohio, Capt. Henry J. McCord.
118th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Edgar Sowers.

Third Brigade.

Col. SILAS A. STRICKLAND.

91st Indiana, Lieut. Col. Charles H. Butterfield.
50th Ohio, Capt. John S. Conahan.
181st Ohio, Maj. James T. Hickey.
183d Ohio, Col. George W. Hoge.

Artillery.

Indiana Light, 15th Battery, Capt. Alonzo D. Harvey.
Ohio Light, 19th Battery, Capt. Frank Wilson.

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* Composed of details from infantry regiments.
† Maj. Gen. Darius N. Couch, in command of the Second and Third Divisions,

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JAMES W. REILLY.

Provost Guard.

100th Ohio, Company F, Lieut. John P. Denny.

First Brigade.

Col. OSCAR W. STERL.

12th Kentucky, Lieut. Col. Laurence H. Rousseau.
16th Kentucky, Lieut. Col. John S. White.
100th Ohio, Capt. Frank Rundell.
104th Ohio, Lieut. Col. William J. Jordan.
8th Tennessee, Capt. James W. Berry.

Second Brigade.

Col. ARTHUR T. WILCOX.

65th Illinois, Lieut. Col. William S. Stewart.
65th Indiana, Lieut. Col. John W. Hammond.
103d Ohio, Capt. Henry S. Pickands.
177th Ohio, Lieut. Col. William H. Zimmerman.
5th Tennessee, Lieut. Col. Nathaniel Witt.

Third Brigade.

Col. THOMAS J. HENDERSON.

112th Illinois, Lieut. Col. Emery S. Bond.
63d Indiana, Lieut. Col. Daniel Morris.
140th Indiana, Col. Thomas J. Brady.

Artillery.

Indiana Light, 23d Battery, Capt. James H. Myers.
1st Ohio Light, Battery D, Lieut. Cecil C. Reed.

PROVISIONAL ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. ALFRED H. TERRY.

SIGNAL CORPS.

Lieut. FREDERICK E. BEARDSLEE.

ENGINEERS.

15th New York, Companies A and I, Lieut. Keefe S. O'Keefe.

SECOND BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. JOSEPH C. ABBOTT.

6th Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Daniel Klein.
7th Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Seager S. Atwell.
3d New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. James F. Randlett.
7th New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. Augustus W. Rollins.
16th New York Heavy Artillery (six companies), Maj. Frederick W. Prince.

SECOND DIVISION, TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. ADELBERT AMES.

First Brigade.

Col. RUFUS DAGGETT.

3d New York, Lieut. George E. Avent.
112th New York, Lieut. Col. Ephraim A. Ludwick.
117th New York, Capt. Edward Downer.
142d New York, Col. Albert M. Barney.

Second Brigade.

Lieut. Col. JAMES A. COLVIN.

47th New York, Capt. Frank A. Butts.
48th New York, Capt. Van Rensselaer K. Hilliard.
76th Pennsylvania, Maj. Charles Knerr.
97th Pennsylvania, Capt. William H. Martin.
203d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Amos W. Bachman.

Third Brigade.

Col. G. FREDERICK GRANGER.

13th Indiana (seven companies), Lieut. Col. Samuel M. Zent.
9th Maine, Lieut. Col. Joseph Noble.
4th New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. Frank W. Parker.
115th New York, Lieut. Col. Nathan J. Johnson.
169th New York, Capt. Edwin R. Smith.

THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES J. PAINE.

First Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. DELEVAN BATES.

1st U. S. Colored Troops,* Lieut. Col. Giles H. Rich.
30th U. S. Colored Troops,† Lieut. Col. Hiram A. Oakman.
107th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. William H. Revere, jr.

Second Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. SAMUEL A. DUNCAN.

4th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. George Rogers.
6th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. John W. Ames.
39th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Ozora P. Stearns.

Third Brigade.

Col. JOHN H. HOLMAN.

5th U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. William R. Brazie.
10th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Edward H. Powell.
27th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. John W. Donnellan.
37th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Nathan Goff, jr.

ARTILLERY.

1st Connecticut Heavy, Companies B, G, and L, Capt. William G. Pride.
2d Pennsylvania Heavy, Company A, Capt. Benjamin F. Everett.
New York Light, 16th Battery, Capt. Richard H. Lee.
3d United States, Battery E, Lieut. John R. Myrick.

CAVALRY.

20th New York, Company I, Capt. John J. Carroll.

DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Brig. Gen. INNIS N. PALMER.

SUB-DISTRICT OF NEW BERNE.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD HARLAND.

15th Connecticut, Col. Charles L. Upham.
23d Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. John W. Raymond.
25th Massachusetts (four companies), Capt. Samuel Harrington.
27th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Walter G. Bartholomew.
99th New York (three companies), 132d New York, Col. Peter J. Claassen.
1st North Carolina (two companies), Capt. Richard J. Allen.
12th New York Cavalry, Lieut. Col. Philip G. Vought.
23d New York Cavalry, Company A, Capt. Emory Cummings.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery (detachment), Lieut. Col. Augustus B. R. Sprague.
3d New York Light Artillery (detachment), Col. Charles H. Stewart.
New York Light Artillery, 23d Battery, Capt. Alfred Ransom.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery (ten companies), Lieut. Col. George W. Tew.

* Temporarily attached to Third Brigade.
† Temporarily attached to Second Brigade.

ROANOKE ISLAND.

Col. THEODORE F. LEHMANN.

16th Connecticut (detachment), Capt. Joseph H. Barnum.
101st Pennsylvania (two companies), Lieut. Edgar Lee.
103d Pennsylvania (detachment), Col. Theodore F. Lehmann.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Company D, Lieut. Moses O. Darling.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Company K, Capt. Emelius de Meulen.
New York Light Artillery, 24th Battery, Lieut. William S. Camp.

SUB-DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT.

Col. JAMES STEWART, Jr.

17th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Henry Splaine.
9th New Jersey, Maj. Samuel Hufty.
1st North Carolina (detachment), Col. Joseph M. McChesney.
1st North Carolina Colored Heavy Artillery, Maj. William A. Moore.
3d New York Light Artillery, Battery C (section), Lieut. Enoch Jones.

PLYMOUTH.

2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery (four companies), Col. Jones Frankle.

PROVISIONAL DIVISION, ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS F. MEAGHER.

*Abstract from returns of the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore, U. S. Army, commanding, for February 28, 1865.**

[Compiled mainly from subordinate returns.]

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
General headquarters	59	82	142	147	.....	.....
First New York Engineers (battalion, Place)	7	559	584	600	.....	.....
First Separate Brigade (Hatch)	60	2,340	3,375	6,543	.....	.....
Second Separate Brigade (Guernsey)	52	1,655	1,925	2,203	.....	.....
Third Separate Brigade (Littlefield)	.....	.....	.....	1,854	.....	.....
Fourth Separate Brigade (Scammon)	47	1,336	1,652	3,993	.....	.....
District of Savannah (Grover)	160	3,856	5,054	8,846	.....	.....
Total	385	9,828	12,732	24,186	.....	.....
Total according to department return	384	9,596	12,474	23,881	.....	.....

Organization of troops in the Department of the South, commanded by Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore, U. S. Army, February 28, 1865.

FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE.†

Brig. Gen. JOHN P. HATCH.

54th Massachusetts (colored), Maj. George Pope.
55th Massachusetts (colored), Lieut. Col. Charles B. Fox.
54th New York, Maj. Stephen Kovacs.
56th New York, Maj. Eliphas Smith.
52d Pennsylvania, Maj. John A. Hennessy.
21st U. S. Colored Troops, Capt. Henry Sharp.
33d U. S. Colored Troops, Capt. Niles G. Parker.
3d New York Light Artillery, Battery B, Capt. Thomas J. Mesereau.
3d Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, First Battalion, Lieut. Col. William Ames.

* The troops constituting the Provisional Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Edward E. Potter, are not indicated on the returns.

† Or Northern District. Brig. Gen. Alexander Schimmelfennig commanding Defenses of Charleston.

SECOND SEPARATE BRIGADE.*

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM B. GUERNSEY.†

26th U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. Ira Winans.
32d U. S. Colored Troops, Col. George W. Baird.
3d Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Company A, Capt. William H. Hamner.
2d U. S. Colored Light Artillery, Battery G, Capt. Jeremiah S. Clark.

THIRD SEPARATE BRIGADE ‡

Bvt. Brig. Gen. MILTON S. LITTLEFIELD.

144th New York, Col. James Lewis.
25th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Nathaniel Haughton.

FOURTH SEPARATE BRIGADE. §

Brig. Gen. ELIAKIM P. SCAMMON.

17th Connecticut, Maj. Henry Allen.
75th Ohio (two companies), Capt. William J. Rannels.
107th Ohio, Capt. Philip Setzler.
3d U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Benjamin C. Tilghman.
34th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. William W. Marple.
35th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Ammiel J. Willard.
4th Massachusetts Cavalry, Second Battalion, Capt. George R. Hurlbut.
3d New York Light Artillery, Battery F, Capt. Samuel C. Day.

DISTRICT OF SAVANNAH.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. CUVIER GROVER.

SECOND DIVISION, NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS.

Brig. Gen. HENRY W. BIRGE.

First Brigade.

Col. HENRY D. WASHBURN.

9th Connecticut (four companies), Capt. William A. Lee.
8th Indiana, Maj. John R. Polk.
18th Indiana, Capt. Doil R. Bowden.
12th Maine (four companies), Lieut. Col. Edwin Ilsley.
14th Maine (four companies), Capt. John K. Laing.
14th New Hampshire, Maj. Flavel L. Tolman.
75th New York (five companies), Lieut. Col. Robert P. York.

Second Brigade.

Col. NICHOLAS W. DAY.

13th Connecticut (five companies), Capt. William E. Bradley.
22d Iowa, Col. Harvey Graham.
28th Iowa, Lieut. Col. Bartholomew W. Wilson.
131st New York, Capt. Thomas Tileston.
159th New York, Lieut. Col. William Waltermire.

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* Or District of Beaufort.
† Temporarily commanding in absence of Brig. Gen. Edward E. Potter, commanding Provisional Division in the field.
‡ Or District of Hilton Head.
§ Or District of Florida.

Third Brigade.

Lieut. Col. JAMES P. RICHARDSON.

24th Iowa, Lieut. Col. Edward Wright.
38th Massachusetts, Capt. William H. Jewell.
128th New York, Capt. Henry H. Sincerbox.
156th New York, Capt. Alfred Cooley.
175th New York (five companies), Capt. Charles McCarthey.
176th New York, Maj. Charles Lewis.

UNASSIGNED.

1st New York Engineers, First Battalion, Maj. James E. Place.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Ferily's Bridge, Lynch's Creek, March 1, 1865.

General O. O. HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: Slocum has the Twentieth here across Lynch's Creek, and a good bridge. Davis is across the Catawba, and ought to be about fifteen miles behind us. To-morrow all will move forward fifteen miles, which will bring us near Chesterfield, next day at Cheraw, Davis in the meantime closing his gap; push Blair straight on Cheraw; with the Fifteenth Corps move on the same point, careful to reach the railroad below Cheraw and break it, then on Cheraw. We will cross to the north of Cheraw. The enemy cannot hold Cheraw against us, because it is on a branch road and we can insulate it. Johnston, if there, will not fight with a bridge behind him. We may have to cross the Pedee with a serious enemy in front, but we must not allow the Confederates time to fortify Cheraw. I know Hampton was in person above Lancaster; also Wheeler. I had an original communication from Wade Hampton yesterday, and he is still watching Kilpatrick, who is at Lancaster till Davis gets past. Push with all energy straight on Cheraw, cutting its road below, and I will be up on the 3d instant.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

[Indorsements.]

Please read and return.

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

—

Push what available mounted men you have to the head of Corse's column.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Tiller's Bridge, S. C., March 1, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: In the event of my being able to cross General Woods' division at this bridge, is it the desire of the general commanding to have him move to New Market to fill up his supply train? I have

directed him to march to that point unless he shall receive other orders. General Corse has been ordered to move to Black Creek on the main Camden and Cheraw road.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Lynch's Creek, S. C., March 1, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inform you that we began crossing this afternoon, and passed the whole of General Corse's train and one brigade with headquarters of the First Division. The place where the pontoon was laid has cut badly, and we are now building a bridge, but will have it completed to-night, and everything across to-morrow. General Corse has moved out and is now on Black Creek, where he will await orders. I shall move in the morning with this division to New Market, as indicated in a previous note. My headquarters have crossed the creek.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

P. S.—From where General Corse is in camp to New Market it is but six miles, with good roads on each side of the creek.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Tiller's Bridge, S. C., March 1, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that one of my brigades is now over the river, and that the balance of my command has been moved down to the crossing so as to be convenient when the bridge, which I am now building, may be finished. It will not be completed before 12 o'clock. I shall begin crossing as soon as it may be ready.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Lynch's Creek, S. C., March 1, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the Second and Third Brigades of this command (General Oliver commanding) moved forward to Kellytown at 3 p. m., six miles and a half. The First Brigade crossed the creek at 6 p. m., the crossing having been much interrupted by the breaking of the bridge. Lost 2 men to-day by desertion; captured 16 prisoners.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Kellytown, March 1, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. B. HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding desires me to say that he will make a reconnaissance to-morrow morning to New Market with the cavalry, but will detain General Oliver's brigade at this point till you are over.

By order of Major General Howard:

J. A. SLADEN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Kelly's Bridge, S. C., March 1, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command remains in the same position as reported on the 26th [ultimo], waiting for the Second Division (it being in the advance) to build a bridge and cross Lynch's Creek. The pioneer corps of this command has been assisting that of the Second Division in building the bridge.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Black Creek, S. C., March 1, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to inform you that my division broke camp at 1.30 p. m. (most of my train having succeeded in crossing Lynch's Creek at this hour), and moving on the direct Camden and Cheraw road, made Black Creek at 8.30 p. m., where I placed my command in a defensible position with reference to my rear and flanks, the front being protected by the creek and swamp, and ordered the troops into night bivouac. No enemy has been developed in my front thus far.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 30.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Lynch's Creek, S. C., March 1, 1865.

I. As soon as the trains of this division are across the swamp the troops will march. Brigade commanders will therefore hold their men in camp and be in readiness to move at a moment's notice. The route to be pursued will be the main Camden and Cheraw road to the crossing of Black Creek, twelve miles distant. The order of march shall be as follows: First, Second Brigade Infantry, with two regiments in advance, followed by the battery, one regiment to move by the side of battery and trains. Second, Third Brigade Infantry, moving by the

side of trains. Third, trains in rear of battery, in following order: First, ten wagons ordnance; second, ambulances; third, train of advance brigade; fourth, pioneer train; fifth, refugee train; sixth, ordnance train; seventh, supply train; eighth, trains of the two rear brigades, in the order of their respective commands. Fourth, First Brigade Infantry, two regiments moving in rear of trains and two by the side of same. The entire column, trains especially, will keep well closed up under all circumstances, and when from unavoidable accident or obstacle the troops or trains are retarded, and intervals thereby created, the commanding officer or officer in charge of same will report the fact to the head of the column at once, in order that the evil may be remedied. Wagons of these headquarters will be permitted to enter the column at any point in rear of battery, but not to separate any subdivision of the train. This order will be final so far as the movements of the trains are concerned, and followed until further orders.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

LOUIS H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Black Creek, March 1, 1865.

Col. F. J. HURLBUT,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: You will hold your command in readiness to move over Black Creek by 7.30 a. m. to-morrow, the 2d instant. When you shall have crossed you will commence on the opposite bank and corduroy every place where there is a doubt exists as regards the trains being able to pass without stalling.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

LOUIS H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, March 1, 1865.

Major-General BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The Twentieth Corps will be to-morrow night at or near Chesterfield. I want the Right Wing to move straight on Cheraw vigorously and secure if possible the bridge across Pedee. You need not suppose the enemy to be there in heavy force. Big generals may be there but not a large force. At all events get across Thompson's on to-morrow and in Cheraw if possible. I will have men across the same stream about Chesterfield. Communicate with me there to-morrow night.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Thirteen Miles from Cheraw, S. C., March 1, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: All prisoners confirm the statement that the garrisons of Charleston and Wilmington are at Cheraw, with Joe Johnston in com-

mand, and that they were en route for Charlotte. Deserters and prisoners think they will make a stand here. They have a great deal of field artillery. Day before yesterday there was reported to be eighteen batteries, yesterday twenty-three. My command is intrenched in a strong natural position, and I am safe against anything the enemy can bring. Some of our foragers report seeing the foragers of the Twentieth Corps on this side of Lynch's Creek, and they report the corps crossing at a bridge some distance above Blakeny's.

Very respectfully,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

P. S.—I have not considered myself authorized to advance farther after receiving your communication yesterday afternoon.

F. P. B.,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Kellytown, March 1, 1865—6 p. m.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general does not wish you to move forward until the Fifteenth Corps is within supporting distance. Two brigades of General Hazen's division reached this point this p. m., but the bridge broke down with the first wagon and will delay the column so that it will probably not get closed up to-night.

General Corse is probably at the crossing of the Big Black Creek to-night. The crossing at Tiller's was so bad that we came down here, but gained nothing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 55. } *In the Field, S. C., March 1, 1865.*

The scarcity of forage renders it necessary that all worthless animals in this command should be at once disposed of.

Division commanders will cause an inspection to be made of their camps and all foraging animals found that are in excess of the number allowed by them to each regiment or detachment will be taken to a distance from the camp and killed. If, however, any serviceable animals are found in this excess they will be delivered to the division quartermaster.

Division commanders are specially directed to reduce the number of forage animals in their commands to as small a number as possible.

II. The attention of division commanders is called to existing orders in relation to forage parties passing ahead of the column. The great number of mounted men that are exploring the country in advance of not only the infantry but the cavalry renders any effort of the latter to obtain information concerning the enemy's movements perfectly futile.

Foragers are captured every day, and every one captured is a source of information to the enemy. The most stringent measures must be taken to prevent foraging in front of the columns. The operations of foraging parties can be extended to the flank as far as the commanding officer may see proper to go.

Lieut. Col. S. T. Hughes, commanding Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry, will cause all foragers he may find in advance of the column to be dismounted and sent back in arrest.

Division commanders will cause their pickets to be instructed to permit no foragers to pass to the front from the camp.

* * * * * * *

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Near Bridge, Lynch's Creek, S. C., March 1, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Army:

GENERAL: I have just heard from General Davis; at 11 o'clock this morning his advance had reached Hanging Rock and the corps was coming along well.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING,
[*March 1, 1865*]—*8.15 p. m.*

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Aide-de-Camp:

One of my staff officers has just come from the Fourteenth Army Corps. Morgan's division, with his train, is in camp on Little Lynch's Creek, where General Ward encamped last night. The other two divisions are near that point. I think we can push the Twentieth Corps fifteen miles to-morrow. Davis will very soon be up with us. He will take a road to the left after reaching this point. If he is short of forage he will go to McManus' Bridge from Horton's Tavern.

Very respectfully,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

HORTON'S TAVERN, *March 1, 1865—6 a. m.*

Major-General DAVIS:

GENERAL: The Twentieth Army Corps encamped at this point last night. A force was sent forward to Ferily's Ford. A good bridge was found at that point which we now hold. This corps will cross Lynch's Creek to-day and move over to Thompson's or Johnson's on Rocky Creek. McManus' Bridge is in good order, and when you reach this point you move to that bridge via Hickory Head. This will bring you on the road it was intended you should take. I hope you will press forward as rapidly as possible, as General Sherman is extremely anxious on the subject and has good reasons for his anxiety. Press your command as hard as you dare to. Howard is at Cheraw.

Yours, truly,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

I wish you to report to me at least once a day, and if possible oftener.

MILLER'S OR FERILY'S BRIDGE,
March 1, 1865—12 m.

General J. C. DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The First Division, Twentieth Army Corps, is now in camp at Johnson's, on the main road to Chesterfield. The road from Horton's Tavern to that point is excellent and the bridge at this point new and in good order. If you have sufficient forage on hand I think it would be well to send your trains direct to this point, after which they can move to the left of the road taken by the Twentieth Army Corps. I wish to hear from you to-night so that I may regulate the movements of the Twentieth Army Corps somewhat by yours. I have heard nothing from you since I left you yesterday morning.

Yours, respectfully,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Russell Place, Five Miles of Hanging Rock, March 1, 1865.

[Major-General SLOCUM, *Commanding:*]

GENERAL: We are at last on the road and fairly off again. The roads improve by and above the river, but are bad still. We are pushing, and will continue to do so. The pontoon bridge could not be gotten out until last night. The enemy attacked and skirmished quite sharply the rear guard while taking up the bridge. I shall report to-night again. My advance is six miles beyond this.

Yours, very respectfully,

JEF. C. DAVIS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Hanging Rock, S. C., March 1, 1865—7 p. m.

Major-General SLOCUM, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: Morgan is at Horton's; Baird and Carlin here. The road over the hill at this place is very bad. If the bridge at McManus' is standing I think Morgan can reach Blakeny's to-morrow night. The other divisions will not be far behind. My orders are to march at daylight and go into camp at dark. I sent a communication to you this morning by return messenger. Ludlow left me about 1 p. m., and must have reported to you by this time. Make your calculations upon everything being done that men and animals can accomplish in catching up with you. I will dispatch you in the morning again.

Yours, very respectfully,

JEF. C. DAVIS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Clyburn's Store, S. C., March 1, 1865—9 p. m.

Lieut. Col. A. C. MCCLURG,
Chief of Staff, Fourteenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: In compliance with Special Field Orders, No. 18, corps headquarters, I have the honor to report my division in camp at this

point, making a march of full twenty miles; my train will be somewhat late getting into park, owing to a breakdown of one of the wagons of the reserve artillery. Roads heavy. The rear of the Twentieth Corps left this place at 12 m. to-day, and are reported in camp to-night eleven miles in my front. General Sherman's headquarters were here yesterday. He left this morning. General Kilpatrick's headquarters were at the Gold Mines last night. I will push on early in the morning, taking the road as directed in your dispatch of this p. m. No forage for animals, and the same may be said for the men.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES D. MORGAN,
Brigadier-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Lynch's Creek, S. C., March 1, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow toward Chesterfield in the same order as in the march of to-day. The First and Third Divisions will each start at 6.30 a. m. General Geary will start in season to close up to the rear of the Third Division train. General Jackson will march two brigades in advance, leaving one with his trains. General Geary will detail one brigade as rear guard. One section of artillery will march with the rear guard. The balance of the artillery will leave their present camp in time to take their positions in the column, which will be the same as to-day. The artillery ammunition train will march in rear of the First Division train.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 29. HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY COMMAND,
In the Field, S. C., March 1, 1865.

I. The command will move to Blakeny's Cross-Roads, six miles from and east of Robinson's Ford, to-morrow.

II. Colonel Spencer, with Third Brigade and dismounted men, Lieutenant-Colonel Way commanding, will move direct from his camp to the point indicated at 7 o'clock, obstructing ford. After crossing Lynch's Creek he will encamp north of and east of Blakeny's.

III. Colonel Jordan, with First Brigade, will move at 6 a. m. via Robinson's Ford to Blakeny's.

IV. General Atkins, with Second Brigade, will move at 6 a. m., following Colonel Jordan, and obstructing Robinson's Ford after crossing.

V. Brigade commanders will see that the command moves steadily forward without halting, in order that they may have no delay.

By command of Brevet Major-General Kilpatrick:

L. G. ESTES,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *March 1, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

I captured this place on the 22d. Hoke, with about 6,000 men, went north; Hardee was on the way from Charleston, but turned toward Fayetteville on learning of the fall of Wilmington. I have been unable

to move yet, for want of transportation, but hope to start for Goldsborough by the 5th or 6th of this month. The force at New Berne has not been as prompt as expected, but I have sent Cox there with another division and ordered him to push out at once. I think we can get Goldsborough by the 15th of March, and have the railroad completed at least as far as Kinston. It will take some time longer to open the road from this place. We have not even rolling-stock to commence work with. If you come to Fayetteville I can send you a moderate supply of commissary stores in boats. I hope to hear from you directly in a few days.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 1, 1865.*
(Received 9.30 p. m. 5th.)

WILLIAM H. WHITON,
U. S. Military Railroads:

Order every car belonging to U. S. military railroads now on foreign roads returned to Alexandria immediately. Direct that the Potomac railroad be operated separately from Baltimore and Ohio, reshipping freight at Harper's Ferry. Send at the earliest possible moment narrow-gauge stock as follows: Two engines, 15 flat and 15 box cars to Wilmington, N. C., and of the same gauge 2 engines, 25 flat and 25 box cars to Morehead City, N. C., or, if possible to secure vessels of proper draft, to New Berne, to which place there is eight and a half feet of water over the bar. Do not fail to have these shipments made at once; the case is desperate. Make requisitions upon Quartermaster-General for fifty box-cars (narrow-gauge), and have Colonel Robinson see that they are manufactured as early as possible. On receipt of this telegraph me at Fifth Avenue Hotel.

D. C. McCALLUM,
Brigadier-General and Superintendent U. S. Military Railroads.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 18. } ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, N. C., March 1, 1865.

* * * * * * *

IV. Brigadier-General Hawley is hereby assigned to the command of the District of Wilmington, which will embrace all the territory under military control in rear of the army operating from Cape Fear River as a base. General Hawley will be responsible for the protection of the depot at Wilmington, Cape Fear Harbor, and the line of railroad in rear of the army. He will also perform the duties of provost-marshal-general for the district under his command.

V. The brigade of the Twenty-fourth Army Corps now commanded by Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. C. Abbott is assigned to Brigadier-General Hawley's command, and will at once relieve all other troops now doing garrison and fatigue duty at Wilmington. The troops at Smithville, Fort Fisher, and Fort Caswell will be relieved as soon as practicable. The troops relieved will join their proper commands without delay.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 46. HDQRS. PROVISIONAL CORPS, DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA, *March 1, 1865.*

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V. It being found impracticable, on account of the state of the roads, to subsist all the troops of this command at their present position, Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. Ames will move the two brigades of his division now with him to a position just north of Smith's Creek.

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By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 3. HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS, *Northeast Ferry, March 1, 1865.*

I. This brigade will be ready to move at daylight to-morrow morning, March 2, in heavy marching order. All baggage of the brigade will be taken if wagons can be procured in the morning. If not, a sufficient guard will be left until transportation can be procured.

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By order of Bvt. Brig. Gen. Joseph C. Abbott:

E. LEWIS MOORE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. HDQRS. DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT, *New Berne, N. C., March 1, 1865.*

1. The undersigned having been assigned to command of the District of Beaufort, including all the posts and U. S. forces in the Department of North Carolina north of and including Fort Macon, by Special Orders, No. 14, from headquarters Department of North Carolina, hereby assumes command.

2. The following officers of the staff are announced: Maj. Theodore Cox, assistant adjutant-general; Maj. Tris. T. Dow, One hundred and twelfth Illinois Volunteers, acting assistant inspector-general; Capt. Hobart Ford, One hundred and fourth Ohio Volunteers, aide-de-camp; Capt. Edward E. Tracy, One hundred and fourth Ohio Volunteers, aide-de-camp.

3. Headquarters of the district will be in the field.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 2. HDQRS. DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT, *New Berne, N. C., March 1, 1865.*

I. The troops within this district, exclusive of post garrisons and the First Division of the Twenty-third Corps, will be temporarily organized into two divisions as follows: First Division, Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer commanding, will consist of One hundred and thirty-second New York Volunteer Infantry; Eighty-fifth New York Volunteer Infantry; Ninth New Jersey Volunteer Infantry; Twenty-third Massachusetts Volunteer

Infantry; Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery; Batteries C and D, of Third New York Light Artillery; also First and Third Brigades of the Provisional Division, lately commanded by Brigadier-General Meagher. Second Division, Brig. Gen. S. P. Carter commanding, will consist of Fifteenth Connecticut Volunteer Infantry; Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry; Seventeenth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry; Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry; Batteries A, I, and G, Third New York Light Artillery; also Second Provisional Brigade and the Eighteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry from the Provisional Division lately commanded by Brigadier-General Meagher.

II. The commandants of divisions will at once organize their commands into three brigades each for field service, and report the organization by division general orders.

III. The garrisons of all the permanent posts of the district will be regarded as part of the division of Brigadier-General Palmer, and will forward reports as heretofore to the office of the adjutant-general of that division at New Berne.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 3. HDQRS. DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT, *New Berne, N. C., March 1, 1865.*

I. The troops of this district organized for field service will move to-morrow for Core Creek crossing. General Ruger's and General Palmer's divisions will take position near the railroad crossing of Core Creek, and General Carter's division at the Dover road crossing of the same stream. The cavalry of the command will cover the front and left, reconnoitering carefully in the direction of Kinston and Sandy Foundation. Railroad transportation will be provided by the quartermaster's department to as great extent as possible, but such portions of the command as cannot be moved by rail to-morrow will march.

II. The baggage of the command will be reduced to the lightest standard for active field service and will be based upon the following allowance of wagons, viz: To each 400 enlisted men one wagon, to each brigade headquarters one wagon, and to each division headquarters two wagons. At present these wagons cannot be permanently assigned, but upon going into camp all wagons must be used for transportation of supplies from the railroad terminus.

III. Division commanders will cause their troops to be supplied with rations in haversacks up to the 5th instant, inclusive, and with thirty rounds extra ammunition in knapsacks, besides having cartridge-boxes full. They will also cause shelter-tents to be drawn by all enlisted men not already supplied.

IV. During active operations at the front post and garrison commanders are especially charged to use the utmost vigilance and to be in the most constant state of preparation for any emergency. They will be held strictly responsible for any surprise, and are warned that an enterprising enemy will naturally seek to make incursions upon the smaller posts in rear when a long period of safety has tempted the garrisons to omit proper precautions and watchfulness.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX.
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
New Berne, March 1, 1865.

Col. P. J. CLAASSEN,
132d New York Volunteers, Batchelder's Creek, N. C.:

COLONEL: The commanding general telegraphed to you this p. m. to come down here in the morning, but now he wishes you to at once move your command to the front and occupy the crossing of the railroad at Core Creek, leaving behind in your present camp only sufficient guard to take care of it. Of course this will not be interpreted to interfere with your present line of outposts, Red House, Beech Grove, &c., only so much as may be necessary to perfect your communications from your own new position and headquarters. You may expect to take the field in a few days with your command and some other troops, giving you a brigade; so be prepared. Send me at once a list of the number of arms (muskets) you want to complete the armament of the Western men lately attached to you, when the ordnance officer will be directed to issue you good ones. The old ones can then be turned in as surplus. Get everything well in hand, looking to equipage and ammunition particularly. These are the general's directions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. JUDSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
New Berne, March 1, 1865—11.45 p. m.

Col. P. J. CLAASSEN,
Commanding Outposts, Batchelder's Creek:

COLONEL: Your dispatch received. The general does not wish to designate any particular hour for your move to Core Creek crossing. He simply wishes it done to-morrow as promptly as is consistent with the general interests of the service. As you are on the ground, it would seem that you were the best judge of the time to move so as to arrive at the crossing in time to get into camp and post your pickets, &c. You are expected to take the greater part of your command with you. You will, of course, leave behind a sufficient number of men for the proper reliefs, although this move will of course make a different arrangement of the picket-line, and require probably less men to your right and left, in rear. This, however, is left to your best judgment.

Respectfully,

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 1, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, U. S. Army,
Chief of Staff, Armies of the United States, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I had the honor of recommending in my letter of the 17th of February that the regiments and batteries now serving in this department, numbering between 20,000 and 21,000 men within the command, should be constituted into an army corps. In consequence of the reduction of my force to take place immediately, in compliance with Lieutenant-General Grant's instructions, communicated in your letter of February 19, I would suggest that no action be taken at the present time upon my application. When I shall have replaced the troops sent

north, by recruiting colored regiments or otherwise, I will then take the liberty of resuming my request for the organization of the troops serving in this department into an army corps, in order that my command may have the benefits of the same and that a corps staff may be organized as soon as practicable.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 1, 1865.

Brig. Gen. J. D. WEBSTER,
Chief of Staff, Military Div. of the Mississippi, Savannah, Ga.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 28th of February in reply to my dispatch of the 27th of February. In reply, I have to state that I now hold Georgetown, and have ordered a garrison of from 600 to 800 men, also a dispatch boat, to be sent at once. The following dispatch has just been received from the navy:

Papers of the 25th; Wilmington is ours; captured morning of 22d; 700 prisoners and 30 guns captured. Rebels detroyed 1,000 bales of cotton and 15,000 barrels of rosin before leaving the city.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 1, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. R. SAXTON,
Superintendent of Recruiting, Department of the South:

GENERAL: Great caution should be exercised in giving countenance to State recruiting agents. They should not be allowed to get credit for any recruits except such as are enlisted by their efforts and the additional bounty which they offer. Every man whom they get credited to their respective State quotas that would have enlisted without the interference of these agents, under the inducements which we ourselves can offer, reduces by just that much the force which will be brought into the field under the last call of the President. Such instructions should therefore be given to recruiting officers, and to the mustering and disbursing officer, as will effectually secure the Government against imposition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Same to General Littlefield.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 1, 1865.

Maj. C. W. THOMAS,
Chief Quartermaster, Department of the South:

MAJOR: The major-general commanding directs me to notify you that Colonel Hallowell's brigade, 1,800 strong, has been ordered from Charleston to Savannah; also that two brigades of General Grover's command

have been ordered to Cape Fear River. The last-named detachment will be nearly 3,000 strong. The Delaware will not go to Charleston to-night. The quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. D. HODGES,

Capt., Thirty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, Acty. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 1, 1865.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose with this a copy of a telegram* received last night from General Potter. I have directed him to fall back from the Santee and scour the country on both sides of the Cooper River, destroying the rice mills and such stocks of rice as can not be got to market. He will cause the cotton to be transported to the banks of the Cooper and Wando Rivers, where it can be reached by water transportation, and will collect all the horses and mules he can find for the use of the army. I shall send a force to Summerville to-morrow. The negroes are pillaging the country lately vacated by the rebel troops. I will endeavor to get them into our lines, as I see no other way of preventing it. The men will do for the army; the women General Saxton must try and employ.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 1, 1865.

Brigadier-General HATCH,
Comdg. Northern Dist., Dept. of the South, Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: I hear from all sides very discouraging accounts of the state of affairs in Charleston; that no restraint is put upon the soldiers; that they pilfer and rob houses at pleasure; that large quantities of valuable furniture, pictures, statuary, mirrors, &c., have mysteriously disappeared—no one knows whither or by what agency; and that matters generally are at sixes and sevens.

I deem it proper to mention these things to you, as they are fully reported by persons coming here from Charleston. If the reports be true, even partially, the most vigorous measures should be adopted by way of remedy. Any officer or soldier detected in any act of pillage or appropriation of property for private use or gain should be made an example of.

Mr. Pillsbury, Treasury agent, bears a letter to you in reference to captured or abandoned property, which I desire to have carried out in both letter and spirit. He should at once be put in possession of all captured or abandoned property (movable) not absolutely required for military purposes.

I desire to be furnished at your earliest convenience with a list of the families in Charleston having husbands, fathers, or brothers in the rebel army.

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*See Potter to Schimmelfennig, February 28, 8 a. m., p. 617.

I wish measures to be taken to open the inland passage between Charleston and this place, in rear of James' and John's Islands.

Please order Captain Gilmore, chief telegraph operator of the department, to return to these headquarters by the first opportunity.

I wish measures taken at once to protect the Government against State recruiting agents. I have addressed a letter to General Saxton,* a copy of which has also been sent to the senior officer on recruiting service in Charleston, which, I hope, will so far place those officers on the alert that no impositions can be practiced by said agents should they be so disposed. Should you find them troublesome you will at once send them here, regardless of any permit they may have.

Very respectfully, yours,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 37.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, *Charleston, S. C., March 1, 1865.*

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IX. Capt. Adolphus von Luttwitz will cause to be prepared a report, accompanied with a chart, of the condition of the defenses of the harbor of Charleston at the date of its evacuation by the enemy. He will include in the report the state of the harbor itself, width of channel, nature and position of obstructions, and any reliable information he may obtain of the manner of defenses determined upon by the enemy in the event of an attack by our land or naval forces, either singly or combined.

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By command of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES, POST OF CHARLESTON,
Charleston, S. C., March 1, 1865.

Lieut. L. B. PERRY,
Fifty-fifth Regt. Massachusetts Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to ask attention of the brigadier-general commanding to the following statement: Quantities of cotton are secreted in various parts of the city. A city ordinance forbids cotton being stored within the city limits, except in brick houses west of East Bay street. The reason for this law was that the prevailing spring winds in this locality are from the west, which would render the storage of cotton on the west of East Bay street dangerous in case of fire. The store-houses upon the wharves in the Cooper River will contain 150,000 bales. To guard against fire, to get the cotton into one neighborhood, and to facilitate its ready shipment after it shall have been turned over by the quartermaster's department to the Treasury agent, it is desirable that all cotton shall, as rapidly as it can be discovered and transportation procured, be placed in the store-houses adjacent to the wharves on Cooper River. Since the amount may be large and some cotton may be discovered outside the limits of

* See p. 640.

my post, I would respectfully suggest that the district quartermaster or some other discreet officer be charged with its collection, custody, and transfer to the proper agent of the Treasury.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

STEWART L. WOODFORD,
Lieut. Col. 127th New York Vols. and Post Commander.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 1, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. GROVER,
Commanding District of Savannah, Department of the South:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to state that he has directed Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, commanding Northern District, Department of the South, to send you without delay Colonel Hallowell's brigade, to replace two brigades of your command ordered north.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 1, 1865—4 p. m.*
(Received 5 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. DIX,
Commanding Department of the East, New York:

I respectfully decline General Sandford's offer to furnish a regiment for garrisoning Charleston. We want no three-months' men, nor again do we want any troops except for such service as they may be called on to perform.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 2, 1865.*
(Received 4.40 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The following items are taken from to-day's Richmond papers:

Fayetteville, March 1.—No Yankees have advanced in this direction from Wilmington. Other intelligence which could be communicated is contraband, but of an encouraging character. The Confederate steamer Chickamauga was destroyed by the crew to prevent her from falling into the hands of the enemy, at Gray's Point, in Cape Fear River, Saturday. She is a total wreck. We omit the first part of the telegram relative to Sherman's movements, in deference to a request sent to the various journals in Richmond about ten days since.

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The fall of Wilmington.—We learn from Northern papers that the enemy occupied Wilmington on the morning of the 22d ultimo. As the last train left, our Whitworth battery, planted at the head of Front and Market streets, was firing upon the enemy who had appeared upon the causeway on the western side of the Cape Fear River. Their main advance was then checked at Alligator Creek. Some few skirmishers pushed forward, but were driven off. Our troops retreated across the Northeast Branch of the Cape Fear River at what is known as Big Bridge Ferry, or McRee's Ferry. It is said that our forces attempted to burn the railroad bridge at Northeast, nine miles from Wilmington, but were only partially successful. Later accounts say that our forces had checked the forward movement of the enemy

there. If so, it is probable that Schofield will next try the Fayetteville route, or attempt to effect a junction with Sherman. Since Sherman has already been reported as moving toward Cheraw, there is no impropriety in indicating an opinion that this may be a movement by the flank to cross the Catawba River below the railroad, and thence move on Charlotte along the eastern bank; or, it may mean a change of front with the intention to reach Fayetteville and be in co-operation with Schofield.

The enemy reported at Staunton.—We stated on yesterday that the enemy in heavy force, believed to be mostly cavalry, were advancing up the Valley toward Staunton. As yet we have no official information on the subject of their advance.

From the South.—We hear nothing from Sherman, Schofield, or Schimmelfennig. It is believed that bottomless and impassable mud surrounds them all. The roads are still too bad for serious movements of troops. It is stated that our forces under General Bragg have succeeded in checking the forward movement from Wilmington, under Schofield, on the Wilmington and Weldon road, and that the latter had advanced no farther than Northeast River, ten or fifteen miles from the city. It is thought that Schofield will try to effect a junction with Sherman, via Fayetteville perhaps. An immense war meeting was held in Mobile on the 13th of February, at which patriotic speeches were delivered and appropriate resolutions passed. It is reported that General Hood will be assigned to an important command in Texas. Colonel Hatch, the Confederate agent of exchange, had communication with the Yankee authorities at Wilmington on Friday last, and we are glad to learn an agreement was made for delivery of all the Yankee prisoners in our hands in this State at that point at the earliest practicable moment. Some 3,000 or 4,000 were paroled in Goldsborough on Saturday, and were to be sent yesterday morning to the enemy's lines. Seven hundred or 800 passed this place from Salisbury on Sunday morning for the same point, and we learn that all that are here are to be sent through as soon as transportation can be furnished. Several hundred were sent off yesterday.

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U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Big Black Creek, March 2, 1865—3.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of March 1 just received. I did not get it in season to order General Blair forward to-day. I had ordered General Blair to wait until the Fifteenth Corps was in supporting distance, and hoping that you would get on the road leading from Cheraw northward.

The division of cavalry (Butler's) in Darlington was withdrawn to Cheraw two days ago. The brigade commander, Brigadier-General (or Colonel) Aiken was killed in Duncan's night skirmish near Mount Elon, and also a colonel is reported killed. From the tenor of your dispatch I thought you supposed me purposely delaying. I have not done so.

After Hazen had bridged the Lynch his bridge swayed over and fell as soon as the first wagon commenced crossing, and after he had gotten ready again to cross, the old bridge was carried a few feet downstream and had to be supported. Working hard all the time Generals Corse and Woods only succeeded in effecting a crossing yesterday evening.

The water was three and four feet deep over the roadway, and about a mile of road was covered. After the first few wagons passed any point the bottom gave out and black mud appeared. Everybody worked day and night, and often in the water waist deep. You may ask why I did not go up higher. Because the Little Lynch became almost equally difficult, and I was obliged to get supplies. We have secured them in the vicinity of Kellytown in some quantity. General Corse is now repairing the road across the Big Black, with part of his force

on the other side. He will encamp to-night where the New Market road comes in; General Woods between New Market and that point; General Hazen, and probably General Smith, at Kellytown. Everything will push on to Cheraw to-morrow. As soon as possible I will break the railroad with mounted infantry. The enemy has not destroyed the bridges across these creeks, but the approaches are awful. I have positive information that Wilmington is in our hands, and that a brigade under Hagood was captured entire near Town Creek, only about twenty-five men escaping. Deserters from that brigade are now at my headquarters. I have forwarded the dispatch you desired to Charleston, and think it will get through safe. From information received I did not think it best to attempt the Florence road again. Could I have gotten my command over Lynch's Creek promptly nothing would have suited me better than to have gone for Hardee with all my might. My headquarters to-morrow night will be as near Cheraw as I can get.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
New Market, March 2, 1865—9 a. m.

Maj. Gen. O. O. HOWARD,
Commanding Army of the Tennessee:

DEAR GENERAL: We have just reached New Market. General Logan's advance has not yet arrived, nor can I hear of it. I have sent one company of Seventh Illinois back on the road toward Tiller's Bridge to meet the advance of the Fifteenth Corps, with orders to come forward rapidly and report to me as soon as it strikes the infantry. It is fifteen miles to Tiller's Bridge, twenty miles to Society Hill, and five to Kellytown. The crossing at Big Black Creek is quite bad, at least 150 yards of deep water on south side, not deep enough, however, to carry a horse off his feet, and the bottom appears to be hard. I think the trains can be gotten over without much difficulty. The approach to the bridge on the north side is excellent, ground high and firm. The road from Kellytown to this place is very fair; several small spots will have to be corduroyed. Kelly's Mill is in good repair. Two run of stone. No other mills within six miles of New Market. A small scouting party that I sent out before we reached New Market has just returned. Saw some foragers from First and Fourth Divisions three miles back on the road. Foragers said their advance left the Lynch this morning. I will let you know just as soon as can learn the whereabouts of Woods' division.

One mile and a half from Kelly's Mill the road forks; take the right-hand road. Have seen no enemy this morning. The rebel cavalry left this place Monday night.

Very respectfully,

WM. E. STRONG,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
New Market, S. C., March 2, 1865—10.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. O. O. HOWARD,
Commanding Army of the Tennessee:

DEAR GENERAL: Have just heard from General Woods' division. It is back about five miles coming up. Will be here by 12 m. General

Logan is about four miles from New Market. The Fourth Division is at the crossing, eight miles above Rocky Ford.

I think Woods' division will be here before you can possibly get over.

Respectfully,

WM. E. STRONG,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Big Black Creek, March 2, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that, in accordance with instructions contained in General Sherman's letter, you move Generals Woods' and Corse's divisions as rapidly as possible toward Cheraw, attaining that point to-morrow if possible. The other two divisions will follow rapidly as soon as they are closed up.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BIG BLACK, S. C., *March 2, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: On crossing here I found the train stopped and Corse at work bridging. The most of the train, however, is across, and the balance, I think, will get over before dark, though the bridge is not yet done. I concluded to stay here to-night. Corse leaves me a guard, but pushes everything on to the point indicated. I wish as soon as possible to combine the Ninth Illinois with all the mounted men we have besides, and send them down the Chesterfield and Society Hill road with instructions to break the railroad.

Yours, truly,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
New Market, March 2, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD, U. S. Army,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The general requests me to acknowledge the receipt of your note. He has ordered the Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry to report to Corse to-night; the Twenty-ninth Missouri is already with him. He has not given them other instructions than to report to General Corse, and requests that you will give them orders.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Tiller's Bridge, S. C., March 2, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: In reply to your communication of last night, I respectfully report that I will be ready to march at 9 this a. m. It was 1 o'clock this morning before the bridge was completed, and crossing through the dark swamp this side the river was very difficult, the drivers constantly running off the road, delaying the crossing very much.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Black Creek, S. C., March 2, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the First Brigade and trains of this command crossed Lynch's Creek to-day after the bridge was rebuilt and marched to Kellytown, where joined the rest of the division and moved forward to Black Creek, where camped at 6.30 p. m., having marched eleven miles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
New Market, S. C., March 2, 1865.

Major-General HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: General Woods has been ordered to move out at daylight to-morrow morning on Cheraw, opening communication with the Seventeenth Army Corps. The general commanding requests that you will move your command in rear of his division, well closed up. The pontoon train will move with your command.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Kelly's Bridge, S. C., March 2, 1865—7 p. m.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE:

Owing to washing out of one of the trestles, the part of the bridge west of the old bridge gave way, and as the water has fallen the trestles can be laid flat upon the ground and covered. I had hoped the bottom was firm and that a bridge over this part would be unnecessary, but every part of it will have to be recovered. This will delay me a portion of the morning to-morrow.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Lynch's Creek, S. C., March 2, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: In compliance with instructions I have the honor to report that my command commenced crossing the bridge at 3.30 and the last wagon had crossed at 6 o'clock this evening. I will encamp at or near Kellytown.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Kellytown, S. C., March 2, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command crossed Lynch's Creek, at Kelly's Bridge, between the hours of 3.30 and 6 this p. m., and marched to Kellytown, a distance of seven miles, encamping between the hours of 8 and 9.15 o'clock in the following position: Three regiments of the First Brigade on the right of main road and covering right flank; two regiments same brigade covering the rear, and Second Brigade on left of main road fronting east. These headquarters are at Kelly's house.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
New Market, S. C., March 2, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. JOHN M. CORSE,
Commanding Fourth Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: You will move out to where the road from New Market intersects the Cheraw road to-night, and to-morrow move up within one or two miles of General Blair's column, so as to support, if necessary, and communicate the fact to General Blair.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Six Miles Northeast of Black Creek,
On Cheraw Road, March 2, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that in compliance with orders from the major-general commanding corps I moved my command across Black Creek, breaking camp at 1 p. m., and marched to a point on the direct Camden and Cheraw road at its intersection by the New Market road six miles distant from the creek, where I placed my command in bivouac. One brigade of my division was retained at Black Creek by Major-General Howard as guard to his trains.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 31.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Black Creek, S. C., March 2, 1865.

* * * * * * *

II. The troops of this division will move at 6 a.m. to-morrow, the First Brigade in advance and the Third Brigade in rear. Two regiments of the advance brigade to march beside the battery and trains; and three regiments of the Third Brigade also thrown forward by the side of trains. Battery and trains in same order as on the 1st instant. The column must be kept closed up. The route will be designated when the movement begins.

* * * * * * *

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, S. C., March 2, 1865—10.45 a. m.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I was making preparation to move forward at once on Cheraw, in accordance with inclosed letter from General Sherman,* when I received General Howard's directions to wait. Unless further orders are received I shall move forward to-morrow morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Big Black Creek, March 2, 1865—3.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Your note of 10.45 a. m. to-day is just received. The general directs that in accordance with General Sherman's instructions you move forward on Cheraw at as early an hour as possible to-morrow morning. Generals Corse and Woods are over Lynch, but are detained by Big Black. Hazen and Smith are not yet all across Lynch. Corse and Woods will probably be near to Cheraw to-morrow night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 56.

HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Thirteen Miles from Cheraw, S. C., March 2, 1865.

I. In accordance with instructions from the major-general commanding the army, directing that for each of our men murdered by the enemy a life of one of the prisoners in our hands should be taken, Maj. J. C. Marven, provost-marshal, Seventeenth Army Corps, will select from the prisoners in his charge one man and deliver him to Brig. Gen.

* See March 1, p. 631.

M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, to be shot to death in retaliation for the murder of Private R. M. Woodruff, Company H, Thirtieth Illinois Volunteers, a regularly detailed forager, who was beaten to death by the enemy near Blakeny's Bridge on or about the 1st day of March, 1865.

* * * * * * *

IV. The movement on Cheraw will be continued to-morrow.

The First Division, Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower commanding, will have the advance, and will move forward at 6 a. m. The Third Division, Brig. Gen. M. F. Force commanding, will follow the First Division, being prepared to move at 7 o'clock. The Fourth Division, Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith commanding, will follow the Third Division, being prepared to move at 8 o'clock. The First Regiment Michigan Engineers, Col. J. B. Yates commanding, will follow the troops of the First Division with tool wagons and ambulances. Their train will follow the train of the First Division. The pontoon train will follow the train of the Third Division. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will move forward at 5.30 a. m. The troops will move forward on the right of the train. The train of these headquarters will move with the train of the headquarters First Division.

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VIII. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will move forward at 7 a. m. to-morrow, instead of 6 o'clock, as previously ordered.

* * * * * * *

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
McManus' Bridge, S. C., March 2, 1865—11.15 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel MCCLURG,
Chief of Staff, Fourteenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I am massing up my division for a dinner halt. The bridge all right. A very bad bottom opposite to be corduroyed. The material will have to be taken from this side of the bridge. The work will be commenced immediately. The roads to-day very heavy. Long hard hills to pull up, but on the whole the roads were better than yesterday. My command has made a first-rate march of twelve miles to-day. Will cross the bridge with my command as soon as the road is completed and await further orders. Plenty of forage for the animals, and the men have received plenty of meat, but breadstuff scarce.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES D. MORGAN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Horton's, March 2, 1865.

Brig. Gen. J. D. MORGAN,
Commanding Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to say that he has no doubt you have made a good march to-day, but would have pre-

ferred that you had pushed on four or five miles beyond the bridge. He directs that you march at daylight to-morrow via Blakeny's and Mount Croghan toward Chesterfield.

I am, general, very respectfully, &c.,

A. C. McCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
East side of Lynch's Creek, S. C., March 2, 1865—7 p. m.

Lieut. Col. A. C. McCLURG,
Chief of Staff, Fourteenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: Corduroy in the bottom was not completed till nearly 4 this p. m. owing to the distance the material had to be carried. My whole command is encamped on this side of the bridge and the train is in park. Excuse the mistake made in my dispatch of 11.15 a. m. of this date "about waiting further orders". I will move early in the morning as directed in your order of yesterday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES D. MORGAN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Chesterfield, S. C., March 2, 1865.

Brevet Major-General GEARY, *Commanding Second Division:*

GENERAL: General Ward has been directed to move his command forward to this point at an early hour to-morrow; the exact time of starting is discretionary with him. The general commanding directs that you move your command in time to close up with his rear at the time of starting. Your rear guard will be the same as to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Chesterfield, S. C., March 2, 1865.

Brig. Gen. W. T. WARD, *Commanding Third Division:*

GENERAL: Headquarters are established here at Chesterfield. The general commanding the corps directs that you bring your command, including trains, forward at an early hour to-morrow, marching your pioneers and one unencumbered brigade in advance to repair the road, as it is in a bad condition. The major part will need corduroying.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY COMMAND, ARMY OF INVASION,
In the Field, near Blakeny's Cross-Roads, March 2, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Military Division of the Mississippi:

MAJOR: Captain Northrop, of my staff, dashed into Monroe yesterday and captured nine of the enemy and broke the enemy's courier

line. Two dispatches had been received from Beauregard to Hampton and Hardee; the one addressed to Hampton seven miles from Lancaster, the other at Cheraw. Captain Lee, of Beauregard's staff, had just passed through. He told the citizens that our Right Wing was swinging around to Cheraw, and that he was taking orders to Hardee to fight and delay our march; that Charleston and Wilmington had been evacuated in order to concentrate troops; that Cheatham and a portion of A. P. Hill's corps had reached Charlotte. Beauregard was still in doubt as to our objective point. My officers are fast learning to be good cavalrymen. All little expeditions sent out have been characterized by that enterprise and dash so requisite to success. Captain Northrop brought away nearly one hundred good horses and mules. This information is reliable. Hampton and his cavalry is near Monroe, and not in General Howard's front. I shall hold the roads to the left of Chesterfield to-morrow night, and will reconnoiter the river as high up as opposite Wadesborough. The impression among citizens and rebel soldiers about Monroe is that Petersburg has been evacuated.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Cavalry.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, March 2. 1865.

General KILPATRICK,
Near Lancaster:

GENERAL: The Twentieth Corps is now starting from Big Lynch's Creek for Chesterfield, twenty miles distant. The Fourteenth Corps is now at Little Lynch's Creek, behind us, and will march by McManus' Bridge toward Chesterfield. General Howard was on the 28th February across Lynch's Creek at Tiller's, and General Blair within sixteen miles of Cheraw. All move on Cheraw, where it is said the Charleston and Wilmington garrisons are expecting to meet us. I don't believe they will fight on this side the Pedee, but you may move on General Davis' left near Chesterfield, and by the time you get there I can select the points of crossing, but if there be any enemy at Cheraw he will, of course, break the bridge there and force us to use pontoons, in which case we will probably use Cheraw and Sneedsborough. General Howard sent his company of scouts from Tiller's toward the Charleston and Wilmington road, but they met two brigades of cavalry near Mount Elon Post-Office, and were driven back. General Howard reports Hampton's headquarters at Darlington, but I doubt it. I don't think the enemy would leave his cavalry, or any material part of it, between us and the sea. Doubtless he is watching and using the railroad east and south of us, but to what extent I cannot conjecture until I know whether our people have Wilmington. I suppose Schofield by this time must be on the railroad north of Wilmington, at or near Goldsborough. Keep near General Davis' left and act defensively till we know about Cheraw. I will be with the Twentieth Corps, near Chesterfield, where the Lancaster road meets this, about four miles this side of Chesterfield. I will send infantry to Chesterfield to secure if possible the bridges across Thompson's Creek near that place, to-morrow at Cheraw. You should be to-night on Lynch's Creek, and to-morrow near Chesterfield. Roads

are sandy and good; enemy leaves us good bridges, and thus far we find not even pickets. General Blair found some cavalry on his road, who gave ground easily.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 30.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY COMMAND,
In the Field, S. C., March 2, 1865.

The command will move upon three roads and march at 8 a. m.

I. Brevet Brigadier-General Atkins, with his brigade, will move direct from his present camp on Wadesborough road to a point four miles distant from his camp, where he will take a right-hand road to Hornsborough, via Edgeworth, and wait further orders.

II. Colonel Jordan, with his brigade and division train, will move to Hornsborough, via Edgeworth, and wait further orders.

III. Colonel Spencer, with his command and the dismounted men, Lieutenant-Colonel Way, will move to Hornsborough, seeking some road along or above the North Carolina line.

IV. The major-general commanding will move with the center column.

By command of Major-General Kilpatrick:

L. G. ESTES,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 2, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

Owing to the scarcity of sea-going transportation and the great necessity for it to keep our armies supplied, it is absolutely necessary that it be not detained one hour longer than is required for unloading it. You will please instruct quartermasters and other officers of your command controlling it to this end, and will see that the instructions are strictly complied with. If you have any troops yet to move by water, move them at once, and send back the transportation without delay.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Operator at Fort Monroe will please put up and hand to Captain James, assistant quartermaster, to be forwarded by first boat.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 12.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, N. C., March 2, 1865.

First Lieut. Jasper Myers, ordnance department, having reported at these headquarters, in compliance with orders from the War Department, is announced as a member of the department staff and chief of ordnance, Department of North Carolina.

By order of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
New Berne, March 2, 1865.

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of North Carolina:

SIR: I arrived here in the night of February 28. Yesterday I divided the troops of this district (exclusive of General Ruger's) into two divisions, assigning part of the old troops and part of Meagher's to each. I have ordered away from the different posts and garrisons all that can be spared, and attached them to the moving column. There were a little over 3,000 of Meagher's men here. Palmer's and Carter's divisions will number not quite 4,000 each. If more can properly be drawn from the garrisons, I shall do so. The brigade of Ruger, which was at Fort Anderson, is now arriving at Morehead City. It was delayed by the same storm which kept me two days at Fort Fisher. I ordered yesterday part of Palmer's command up to Core Creek crossing, twenty miles from here, and to-day the remainder of his and Carter's divisions go up, Ruger's following at once. Colonel Wright has six miles of iron here, but expects more very soon. They intend changing the gauge of the railroad, as they cannot get rolling-stock to fit the present width of road. I shall keep as far ahead of them as we can supply ourselves, but we shall not be able to get above fifty wagons from the quartermaster's department for all purposes. My headquarters will be at Core Creek to-morrow, and if the railroad repairs progress as we hope they will I shall push on to Kinston within a day or two after. The Neuse is unfordable below Goldsborough. No light-draft gun-boats are here, and we can therefore get no help from the navy. We may get a light-draft steamer from the quartermaster's department to ferry troops, but I am not yet informed whether the right kind has been found. I will report again from Core Creek. The force at Kinston is believed to remain as heretofore.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. COX,
Major-General, commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, N. C., March 2, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding District of Beaufort:

GENERAL: I have heard nothing yet from General Sherman except the reports brought by our paroled prisoners, who say he was near Charlotte on the 24th. I have sent a gun-boat up the river toward Fayetteville to see what can be learned. My impression is that he is making straight for Goldsborough, one column passing through or near Fayetteville. I am preparing as rapidly as possible to move forward from this place. I want to move the whole force now here by land if I can get wagons enough in time, and if it is not necessary to send you re-enforcements sooner than they could reach you in that way. If necessary I must send you a division or more by water, but the difficulties of water transportation are so great that I want to avoid it if possible. We ought to get Kinston at once, and Goldsborough with the least possible delay. It is, however, so easy for the enemy to concentrate troops at Goldsborough that I apprehend there may be some delay in getting that place. Get the best information you can of the

enemy's strength and movements and keep me advised. I am making my arrangements to start from this place by the 6th instant with the two divisions of the Twenty-third Corps, at least, and by a rapid march join you near Kinston, or wherever you may be, making the march in five or six days. Meanwhile I hope to hear from Sherman, and also of your progress and what you find in your front.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 1.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION,
DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
In the Field, N. C., March 2, 1865.

I. The commanding officer of the Second Massachusetts Artillery, as soon as his companies in New Berne are relieved, will at once concentrate them in camp on the plain in the rear of Fort Totten, providing them with shelter-tents and all other equipage necessary to enable them to at once take the field. The commanding officer Twenty-third New York Independent Battery will take charge of and garrison with his company Forts Dutton and Rowan. The commanding officer Fifth Rhode Island Artillery will with his regiment garrison all the forts about New Berne, both on the north side of the Neuse between the Neuse and Trent Rivers and on the south side of the Trent, with the exception of Forts Dutton and Rowan. He will see that at least one officer is at each fort. It is not expected that the garrisons will be sufficiently large to work the guns. The duty will consist mainly in taking charge of and preserving the present good condition of the works. The present commanding officers will turn over to the officers relieving them all ordnance and ordnance stores and other public property pertaining to the forts. The officers designated are directed to receive the same as of such condition as they may see fit. These changes must be made to-day.

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VIII. Col. Charles H. Stewart, Third New York Artillery, will for the present take command of all the troops and defenses about New Berne. This will not at all interfere with the organization of this division as announced in General Orders, No. 1, current series, from these headquarters.

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XI. In accordance with orders from Lieut. Gen. U. S. Grant, the companies of the Thirteenth New York Artillery now at Coinjock Station, will, upon being relieved, proceed at once to Norfolk, Va. The commanding officer on arrival will report for orders to Brigadier-General Gordon, commanding District of Eastern Virginia. Quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

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XIV. The Third Brigade and that portion of the Second Brigade under the immediate command of Lieutenant-Colonel Curtiss will be ready to march early to-morrow morning. A guide has been designated to conduct the column to the camp.

By command of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 10. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 23D ARMY CORPS,
New Berne, N. C., March 2, 1865.

The division will be ready to move to-morrow at 7 o'clock. All surplus baggage will be stored at New Berne. A small guard, not to exceed one man to a regiment, will be detailed by brigade commanders to take charge of the baggage until it can be brought forward. All the baggage will be stored in one place, and the details left will report to Lieutenant Patton, acting assistant quartermaster, First Brigade, for instructions. The troops will carry the intrenching tools until a wagon can be had for that purpose; at least 100 axes, 100 spades or shovels and 25 pickaxes to a brigade.

By command of Brig. Gen. T. H. Ruger:

J. E. CRAVENS,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 9. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 23D ARMY CORPS,
Wilmington, N. C., March 2, 1865.

I. Capt. George H. Taylor, Company H, Sixteenth Kentucky Volunteer Infantry, having reported in compliance with Special Orders, No. 20, current series, from these headquarters, is hereby announced as acting aide-de-camp on the staff of the general commanding. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Brigadier-General Reilly:

CHAS. D. RHODES,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 20. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 23D ARMY CORPS,
Wilmington, N. C., March 2, 1865.

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II. Col. A. T. Wilcox, One hundred and seventy-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, as senior officer present, will assume command of the Second Brigade, Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, to date from February 25, 1865.

By command of Brigadier-General Reilly:

CHAS. D. RHODES,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT FISHER, N. C., *March 2, 1865.*

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I send report of the garrisons at Smithville and Forts Caswell and Fisher by messenger, which will reach you in the morning.* I have landed my men here and relieved the First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, who are now embarking. The Second Pennsylvania and my men are now doing the duty. This is correct, is it not? Please answer.

FREDK. W. PRINCE,
Major, Commanding Sixteenth New York Volunteer Artillery.

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* See next, *post*.

HDQRS. DETACH. SIXTEENTH NEW YORK ARTILLERY,
Fort Fisher, N. C., March 2, 1865.

Maj. J. A. CAMPBELL, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

SIR: In accordance with verbal instructions received from you on the 28th, I have the honor to report as follows: The garrison at Smithville and Fort Caswell is composed of the Third New York Infantry, 152, and the One hundred and forty-second New York Infantry, 473, a total of 625 in the two regiments. They are divided as follows: Two hundred and five men at Caswell, and 420 at Smithville, Colonel Barney, One hundred and forty-second, in command. The force at Fort Fisher was composed of three companies First Connecticut Heavy Artillery 354 men, and one company of Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, 137 men, a total of 491. The First Connecticut are now embarking, leaving me here one company of Second Pennsylvania, as above, 137 men, and the detachment under my command, 226 men, a total of 363 men. The balance of my detachment is now with Abbott's brigade (Second Brigade, First Division, Twenty-fourth Corps), near Wilmington. They number 365 men, so that when they are sent here there will be—Sixteenth New York Heavy Artillery, 591; Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, 137. Total, 728 men.

I have some men on detached service in the Department of North Carolina, which I shall apply for, so that I shall soon have enough to make it 800 men, and others are daily returning from hospital. Will you be kind enough to order the balance of the detachment now with the Second Brigade, First Division, Twenty-fourth Corps, to report to me here, so that I can get the men all together of the different companies (six), and then I can make such disposition of the force as you may indicate. I should think the force at Caswell was altogether too large, and should say that a force of 100 there would be ample, dividing balance between here and Smithville. Please indicate at what point my headquarters should be. Smithville is midway between the two forts (Fisher and Caswell), and I would prefer that location, if consistent with the interests of the service.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FREDK. W. PRINCE,
Major, Sixteenth New York Heavy Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 2, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, U. S. Army,
Chief of Staff, Armies of the United States, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th of February directing white troops to be sent from this department to Cape Fear River as soon as Charleston should come into our possession, and to inform you that, in compliance therewith, two brigades from Brevet Major-General Grover's command, organized into a division, under a general officer, will embark with all possible dispatch. The aggregate strength of these two brigades is about 3,200 men present for duty. For want of suitable transports I am under the necessity of sending these troops in large steamers that happen to be free at this moment. As they draw too much water to enter Cape Fear River, a light-draft steamer will accompany them as tender to take off the troops.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Savannah, Ga., March 2, 1865.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Department of the South, Hilton Head:

GENERAL: It has been reported to me to-day that the portion of General Taylor's rebel army which was said to have passed through Augusta on Sunday of last week, finding itself unable to effect a junction with Hardee, has returned to Augusta and is now there. My informant is a man of apparent intelligence, not directly from Augusta but from a point, the name of which I do not remember, sixty miles southwest of Augusta, and who said that the report was generally believed there when he left. My informant also stated that at various points in the interior of this State, which he named, there are detachments of rebel cavalry aiding the conscripting officers and in one place a brigade of 2,000. But it seems to me the great importance of Savannah in reference to the present aspect of political affairs in this State should make us very cautious as to weakening its garrison. It ought to be in no danger and the people in the interior should not be permitted to feel that there is any possibility of its passing out of our possession. The loss of it would at once reunite the rebels, now apparently falling into discord, and so cut off any hope of the national cause prospering by the dissensions of the enemy. Five thousand good troops would seem to be no more than a moderate garrison for the place. The new line of defensive works is as yet unfinished and is some five miles in length. The whole country in our rear is open to the enemy and there is no cavalry here by which to get early information. I learn also from members of General Thomas' staff when he left here that he considered the above-mentioned number of troops necessary for the security of the place. The advantages to the rebels of a recapture of the place [are such] that we are bound to presume that they understand them and will act accordingly whenever they have any prospect of success in the attempt of the kind.

These considerations induce me to suggest to you the propriety of suspending the order for withdrawing any portion of the troops now here or for replacing them with inferior ones, till the whole case can be laid before Lieutenant-General Grant and his decision had thereon.

I am, very respectfully, general, your most obedient servant,

J. D. WEBSTER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 2, 1865.

Brig. Gen. L. C. EASTON,
Chief Quartermaster, Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Will you have the kindness to render Brevet Major-General Grover all the assistance you can in transporting two brigades of his command from Savannah to this place.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
March 2, 1865.

Col. E. N. HALLOWELL,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you send to-morrow on a train a force of 200 men to Summerville and return. The men will be kept together and under arms in Summerville. The officer in command will talk with some of the prominent citizens and endeavor to ascertain the sentiments of the people of the country. He will remain in the vicinity of the town a couple of hours, during which time he can detach scouting parties under commissioned officers to visit the neighborhood. The parties going out will be directed not to in any way molest the citizens. The officer in command will be held responsible by you that no depredations are committed, not even a chicken can be taken. Serviceable horses may be pressed and sent in under charge of an officer should any be found, and a return of the same to these headquarters.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 2, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. GROVER,
Comdg. District of Savannah, Department of the South:

GENERAL: The two brigades to be detached from your command, as directed in my letter of the 28th, are bound for Cape Fear River, N. C. They should be provided with five days' rations and a liberal outfit of medical supplies. No land transportation will be sent with them. As I have but one steam transport in this department fit to go to sea with troops, I am obliged to send these troops north in vessels of too much draft of water to ascend the Savannah River. Small transports will therefore be sent to convey these troops to Port Royal Harbor. The chief quartermaster of the department has been directed to furnish the necessary transportation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 3, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Richmond papers of to-day are received, but contain no important news. The following items embrace all that is of any interest:

From Charleston.—The Fayetteville Telegraph of the 24th states that an officer who arrived here direct from South Carolina last night gives us some interesting items concerning the evacuation of Charleston. The evacuation took place on Friday night, and the city was occupied by about 500 Yankees, who landed in small boats about 12 o'clock on Saturday. All the cotton (some 6,000 bales) and the shipping was destroyed, and the guns spiked by the military authorities. The city is now but little more than a heap of ruins. When the Yankees entered nearly half of it was in ashes, and a terrible fire was still raging. The fire originated in two ways. A quantity of damaged powder had been left at the depot of the Northeastern

Railroad Company, among a number of other articles. A crowd of negroes and citizens of the lower class had assembled for the purpose of pillage. While there a boy in sport fired a small quantity of loose powder, which, communicating with that in the boxes, ignited the whole, causing a terrible explosion, with considerable loss of life. The immense depot building was blown to atoms, and the fire spread rapidly to the adjoining houses. It burned with great rapidity, and extended as far up on King street as the Soldiers' Home. About the same time a fire broke out in another portion of the city, caused by the burning of the Savannah bridge. This fire was also very destructive, and the two combined extended from river to river. Numerous other fires also occurred in different parts of the city, said to have been the work of the citizens themselves. All this occurred before the occupation of the city by the Yankees. Our forces under General Hardee have gone in the right direction. It is not permissible to state where they are, but they will be found where they are most needed.

From North Carolina.—The Raleigh Conservative alludes to Sherman's operations, and indulges the hope that if our plans are not thwarted our able generals and brave troops in that quarter will be able to "bag" him or send him howling to the rear. If the report brought us by telegraph that the small force left by him at Columbia has been expelled be true, then the repulse in front, should he suffer such, would probably render his affairs desperate in the extreme, but we will not speculate further in regard to matters which must cease to be matters of mere speculation soon.

From the Raleigh Progress of the 28th.—The Yankee prisoners have all been sent from the camps near this place to Northeast bridge for the purpose of being exchanged. Many others from Greensborough and Salisbury have passed through here to the same destination. All Federal prisoners in North Carolina are to be exchanged, we learn, at Northeast bridge, a few miles from Wilmington. We presume the exchange will be completed in a few days.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 3, 1865—11 a. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

Although I am not positively advised of the fact, I think Sherman and Schofield are in communication, and both, therefore, perfectly secure.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *March 3, 1865—11 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

General Carroll was ordered with General Hancock on Sunday last. General Crocker was ordered East some time ago, but probably has not been able to make the journey in the winter. Vessels sent from here to Cape Fear River are sent back to discharge at Beaufort. If a change has been made in this respect notice should be given to the Quartermaster's Department, in order to save time and expense.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 3, 1865—1 p. m.*
(Received 6 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

I have not heard from General Schofield since General Comstock returned from him. It is likely he has concluded to open the road from

New Berne alone. If so, he will want all accumulation of supplies taken there. I am now looking for the return of a staff officer sent to Wilmington, and when he gets back will know whether vessels are to be stopped at Beaufort or not, and will direct accordingly.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cheraw, S. C., March 3, 1865—1.40 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: General Blair entered here at about 11.30 a. m., skirmishing with the enemy's cavalry. Hardee left with the last of his troops this morning. General Mower pushed with all his might, and tried to save the bridge, but could not do it. We have 17 pieces of artillery as far as counted, about 2,000 muskets, and 1 building containing ammunition. The enemy's skirmishers are on the other side of the river. General Blair will encamp here to-night, and General Logan about eight miles to the rear, on Thompson's Creek. I send you Fayetteville Observer of the 27th instant [ultimo]. An expedition was sent to break the railroad, with instructions to make a very small break, as I thought you may want to use the road for some purpose.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Chesterfield, S. C., March 3, 1865—2.30 p. m.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: Your dispatch, of 3.30 p. m. of yesterday, from Black Creek, is just received. I wrote this a. m. to General Blair a letter* to be sent you, which may reach you before this, but will repeat. Slocum took Chesterfield yesterday, driving Butler's cavalry to and through the town, but the enemy broke one of the bridges and burned the other. Both are now repaired, and Slocum will push one division down on the north bank so as to uncover your crossing; but send me word as soon as you are over, that the Twentieth Corps may cross over to the Pedee toward Sneedsborough, where I want his wing and the cavalry to cross over. Of course I am a little impatient to get across Pedee before Beauregard can swing around from Charlotte and Salisbury and oppose our crossing. Once across Pedee, I don't fear the whole Confederate army, for if need be we can swing in against the right bank of Cape Fear and work down till we meet our people, but I shall aim to reach Fayetteville and Goldsborough, where I know Schofield must now be. I have ordered Davis from McManus' Bridge via Mount Croghan to Sneedsborough, and Kilpatrick is above him toward Wadesborough. Roads are very bad up here, either quicksand or red clay. The country is also poor; still thus far we find forage, bacon, and corn meal. I met at Winnsborough Mrs. Aiken, wife of the very Colonel Aiken you report as killed in the fight with Duncan. She was a Miss Gayler, of Mobile,

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* See 6 a. m., p. 666.

sister of Mrs. General Gorgas, of the rebel Ordnance Department. In her conversation with me she said she supposed her husband would have to "submit or get killed," and I answered her that such was the case, but I hardly thought so soon to be a prophet. I will send your letter to Slocum, with instructions to read it and push one or two divisions down toward Cheraw as fast as possible, leaving his wagons near the Sneedsborough road. I will stay here to-night and to-morrow come down, in hopes to go into Cheraw. I don't believe Hardee will fight on this side the river, and it is now too late for him to slip out by way of Wadesborough. Your rear divisions will have plenty of time to close up whilst you are getting your crossing secured and bridged. I take it all the bridges across Thompson's Creek are gone, unless it be the railroad bridge, which may have been spared for the sake of the wounded that must still be there. I also feel confident that Wilmington is in our possession, and that none of its garrison is at Cheraw.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Chesterfield, March 3, 1865—5.45 p. m.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: Your dispatch from Cheraw to the general-in-chief is received. He has written you twice to-day, viz, once direct and once to Major-General Blair, and he desires me to say those letters contain his views and wishes as regards immediate operations, *i. e.*, for you to concentrate your command at Cheraw and make a crossing of and lodgment beyond the Pedee with all possible dispatch, as it is all-important we at once hold its left bank. If you think you will have time the general would like to have you send any kind of a force from the rear portion of your command—probably mounted would be the best—down to Florence, with directions to destroy anything of public property there. We will come into Cheraw to-morrow morning. It is not probable there is anything of an enemy at Florence.

I am, general, with great respect, &c.,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cheraw, S. C., March 3, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that if General J. E. Smith's division has not yet left the vicinity of New Market it be instructed to remain there for a day or two to collect provisions and use the mills at that point. He does not mean to limit him to the immediate vicinity of New Market, but that he can have two days to reach this point so that he may supply himself, and, if not too far on the direct road, he may march via Society Hill. He wishes you also to organize as large a body of mounted men [as possible] from among the foragers, and such other mounted men as can be spared by you, for an expedition to Florence. It will destroy all trestle-work and bridges

en route to that point, break the railroad near there, burn the bridge and all public property. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will be ordered to report to you and will form a part of the expedition which will rendezvous at the cross-roads seven miles from Cheraw, at 9 a. m. to-morrow, and start from that point. The mounted force organized by you will be placed in charge of a competent officer to be selected by you. It will bring back such provisions, particularly of breadstuffs, as can be carried on a horse. Capt. C. B. Reese, chief engineer, will bridge the Pedee near this point. You will send forward the section of the pontoon with your corps as soon as possible to-morrow morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Thompson's Bridge, S. C., March 3, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inform you for the information of the general commanding that I have encamped the First and Fourth Divisions of my corps on Thompson's Creek, near the bridge, with the Second Division in camp on this side of and the Third Division on the other side of Juniper Creek. My headquarters are with the First and Fourth Divisions.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.
(In temporary absence of the major-general.)

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cheraw, S. C., March 3, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that, in the absence of further orders, you move through Cheraw to-morrow and encamp on the north side of the town, moving out on the plank road. Our headquarters are at the house of Doctor Wilson, in the upper part of town.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Thompson's Creek, S. C., March 3, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that on the night of the 1st instant, having built a substantial bridge over Lynch's Creek, I began crossing my command, and at 9 the morning of the 2d I started from the east side of the creek, marching as far as New Market. I here succeeded in crossing but one brigade over Big Black Creek, when it was found

necessary to lay the pontoons, so that my division was not all over until nearly daylight this morning. Moving right out from camp again, at 6 a. m. to-day, I continued my advance, moving by the Camden and Cheraw road to my present camp on the south side of Thompson's Creek, making twenty-five miles to-day. My troops are encamped on a high ridge of land, about one mile from the creek, facing eastward. My headquarters are near the main road, one mile back from the stream.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Juniper Creek, S. C., March 3, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command crossed Black Creek at 6.30 a. m. to-day on the pontoon bridge and moved forward to and crossed Juniper Creek, where camped, having marched eighteen miles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Thompson's Bridge, S. C., March 3, 1865.

Major-General HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to inform you that General Howard told him that he had ordered the mills at Kellytown to be run for the benefit of the Third Division, as that command was almost out of subsistence, and that General Oliver was working them for that purpose. In view of these circumstances he requests, should it not have been done already, that the meal obtained at the Kellytown mills be turned over to General Smith's commissary for use in his division.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Juniper Creek, S. C., March 3, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this division broke camp at Kelly's farm at 6 o'clock this a. m., and marched on Kelly's Bridge road to near Big Black Creek, thence on neighborhood road to main Camden and Cheraw road; crossed Big Black Creek at ——— bridge and marched to Juniper Creek, a distance of twenty-nine miles, the rear of the command arriving at 6 p. m. The division is encamped upon both sides of the main road fronting southwest and covering all approaches from the rear.

While upon the west side of and near Big Black Creek a party of rebel cavalry numbering about thirty entered the road between the mounted and infantry advance, which were not more than 500 or 600 yards apart, and captured Lieut. Col. James Isaminger, Sixty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, commanding pioneer corps, and one enlisted man. They also killed one of the teamsters who had gone in advance. It was supposed, until too late, that they were our own men, being dressed in complete suits of Federal uniform. I sent what few mounted men I had with me in pursuit but did not succeed in overtaking them. I was unable to comply with orders from corps headquarters, received last evening, requiring me to have four wagons filled with meal and forage. Upon the arrival of my commissary of subsistence at the mill, he found an officer belonging to the Second Division in charge, who said that he had not received any instructions to grind corn for or to give up the mill to this division, but had been instructed to grind all the corn he had for their own command. He finally consented to give up the mill at 2 o'clock this a. m. These headquarters are at Campbell's house.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Thompson's Creek, S. C., March 3, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the movements of my division this instant. In compliance with orders from the major-general commanding corps, received the 2d instant, I broke camp at 7 a. m., and moved on the direct Camden and Cheraw road across Juniper Creek to Thompson's Creek, fifteen miles distant. Upon arriving at this point I found a portion of the trains of the Seventeenth Corps had not yet made the crossing, and in accordance with instructions have placed my division in bivouac near the creek and bridge. The brigade left with Major-General Howard at Black Creek rejoined the division this evening.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 32.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Thompson's Creek, S. C., March 3, 1865.

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II. The troops of this division will be in readiness to march at 10 a. m. to-morrow, infantry in following order: Third Brigade in advance, Second Brigade in the center, and the First Brigade in rear. Trains and battery in same order as heretofore, and infantry marching by the side of trains, except two regiments as an advance, and one as a rear guard.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Chesterfield, S. C., March 3, 1865—6 a. m.
(Received 7.45 p. m.)

General F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Corps:

GENERAL: Your messenger with copies of General Howard's letter and your reply is received. I trust you have marched in accordance with your reply to the general, but if not, do so at once, for this corps is near enough in support, and report to General Howard your action and my orders. I expect to see you soon, and will explain my reasons and information. Don't break the railroad bridge across Thompson's Creek, as it will be useful to Howard, but tap the railroad below Cheraw at any point convenient other than that of Thompson's Creek. We hold Chesterfield, and one of the bridges, viz, that on the Wadesborough road, but the enemy burned the other on the Cheraw road, two miles out, where Jackson's division is now repairing.

Have your pontoons at the head of column, or enough for 150 feet of bridge. Feign at several points, but cross at one. We will operate north of Thompson's Creek. If you get a chance let Mower and Force do some of their sharp, quick work. I hardly hope to save the big bridge across the Pedee at Cheraw, but it is worth the effort. Once start the enemy, keep him going, and force him across Pedee, or rather up the plank road on this side. Let us hear your artillery occasionally, but don't waste ammunition. When you get the forks of the road below Thompson's Creek send me word here. Send this to General Howard as explanation for your advance, and I want him up as soon as he can get all up in good shape. As soon as you have got both banks of Thompson's Creek, set the engineer regiment at work on the bridge, unless the banks are low and favorable to pontoons; but we will want the pontoons before you are done with the Thompson's Creek bridge. I take it for granted the enemy will burn the road bridge, but think he will spare the railroad bridge. Cheraw is full of hospitals, but not much stores. Hardee is there, but Hampton is not. We encountered Butler's cavalry here, but they gave to a skirmish line.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Cheraw, S. C., March 3, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Military Division of the Mississippi:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that my advance entered this town about 12 m., having skirmished with the enemy's cavalry for seven miles. I endeavored to save the bridge on the Pedee by pushing forward my skirmish line rapidly as possible, but just as the men reached it, it was fired at the other end, and, being prepared with rosin, the flame spread like lightning, and it was completely destroyed. I shall lay my pontoon to-night if possible. The enemy are in some force on the other side. I found in the city twenty-four pieces of artillery, heavy and light, and a large amount of ammunition. The commissary stores were in the depot and fired by the enemy before leaving.

Respectfully,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 57. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Cheraw, S. C., March 3, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

II. In order to obtain in a systematic manner the supplies that are in the city, the following orders are made :

Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will cause details to examine every house in the town and take therefrom all breadstuffs, rice, potatoes, meat, sugar, &c., except sufficient to last the families in the houses from which the stores are taken ten days.

A commissioned officer will accompany each detail, and he will be held responsible for the conduct of his men. Wagons will be sent with each detail, and the stores so collected will be gathered together and proportioned by Lieut. Col. J. H. W. Mills, chief commissary of subsistence, Seventeenth Army Corps, among the command.

The houses occupied by general officers will not be examined.

Each house will be examined by the officer in charge of the detail, and the men will not be permitted to enter houses except in presence of the officers.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Cheraw, S. C., March 3, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. A. MOWER,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say to you that he wishes you to effect a crossing and lodgment, if practicable, on the opposite side of the Pedee River, at an early hour to-morrow. He wishes you to feel their skirmish line both above and below the bridge, in order that a point may be found where troops can be crossed without loss. The commanding officer of the pontoon has been instructed to furnish you what boats you may want.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Chesterfield, S. C., March 3, 1865—7 a. m.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: General Kilpatrick reports that he is near Blakeny's, and will move to-day around the head of Thompson's Creek to the neighborhood of Sinclair's and reconnoiter well across to the Pedee. General Blair also reports from his position thirteen miles from Cheraw on the Camden road. General Howard halted him there till the Fifteenth got up in supporting distance. The Fifteenth has been delayed by all sorts of mishaps occasioned by high waters, but General Blair, pursuant to my orders, is now moving straight on Cheraw. I want you to finish up the two bridges, get up your troops from the rear, and move the Twentieth toward Cheraw, north of Thompson's Creek, until you know that General Blair is in Cheraw, when it will

work across to the plank road and up to Sneedsborough, where I design your wing and the cavalry to cross over. You may instruct General Davis to move on Sneedsborough at once, but I don't see as he can do better than to come here and use your upper bridge unless he gets better roads and more forage by Mount Croghan, Sinclair's, McQuaig's, &c. I believe that Hardee is at Cheraw with his Charleston garrison, and it may be part of the Wilmington forces, but I rather think these latter will be used to meet Schofield about Goldsborough, but I want Hardee attacked rapidly and boldly, if in any position this side the Pedee. If he makes the mistake to fight on this side we ought to catch him. I have instructed General Kilpatrick to get a brigade of cavalry across to the plank road at once to observe and attack any force moving on that road from any direction. If Hardee tries to escape toward Wadesborough we must let go our trains and attack him in flank. I think Beauregard, without many wagons, is tied to his Charlotte and Danville railroad. He would not dare depend on the coast road, held as it is, and threatened at Goldsborough. Let us get across the Pedee at all hazards as soon as possible, and then we are all right with Fayetteville as our objective and the Cape Fear River as an alternate base of operations.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Chesterfield, S. C., March 3, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: To-morrow the general-in-chief will move into Cheraw and join the Army of the Tennessee. He wishes you to proceed and cross the Pedee with your command at Sneedsborough as soon as possible, and also directs me to say he will make full orders at Cheraw for the next movement.

I am, general, with respect, &c.,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Chesterfield Court-House, S. C., March 3, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you start your command to-morrow morning at daylight, move to Sneedsborough, and there throw a pontoon bridge over the river and effect a crossing. I am directed to say that the Right Wing has occupied Cheraw, the enemy having evacuated the town, leaving eighteen pieces of artillery and 2,000 stand of small-arms. General Sherman has positive information of the evacuation of Charleston and the capture of Wilmington.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Two Miles in advance of Horton's, March 3, 1865.

Brig. Gen. J. D. MORGAN,
Commanding Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that if you reach Mount Croghan to-day, you make inquiry in regard to the road leading to the left toward the Baptist Church, and thence toward Powell's (and leaving Chesterfield Court-House to the right), and if this road is reported practicable take it as your route toward Cheraw.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. McCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Thompson's Creek, S. C., March 3, 1865—3.30 p. m.

Major GUINDON,
Aide-de-Camp, Major-General Slocum's Staff:

MAJOR: I am going into camp at this point with my division after a march of twenty-three miles; the bridge at this point has been destroyed and no ford for the trains. I will commence immediately the construction of another bridge, and will push on in the morning as soon as it is completed. I am still on what is called Haile's Ferry road, and as yet have been unable to get any reliable information about a road leading to Sneedsborough. From Mount Croghan to this point the road is heavy but not hilly.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES D. MORGAN,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Thompson's Creek, S. C., March 3, 1865—3.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel McCLURG,
Asst. Adjt. Gen. and Chief of Staff, Fourteenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I am going into camp with my division at this point after a march of twenty-three miles. The bridge over this creek has been destroyed or I should have gone two miles farther. Another bridge will be immediately constructed. I will push forward in the morning as soon as the bridge is completed in the direction of Sneedsborough, N. C., in accordance with orders received this morning from General Slocum, of which order I understand you have been informed. The road from the top of the hill this side of Lynch's Creek to Mount Croghan excellent; from that point to the creek heavy but not hilly. There will be no difficulty about the trains of the corps getting over the roads.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES D. MORGAN,
Brigadier-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Chesterfield, S. C., March 3, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow toward Sneedsborough in the following order: Third Division, Second Division, First Division. The

Third Division will start at 6.30 a. m. The other divisions will start in time to close up to the trains of the divisions that are to precede them. The troops of the Third Division will march unencumbered in the advance, and will repair the roads for the trains. General Geary will dispose of his troops so as to cover the trains of his own and General Ward's division. General Jackson will detail one brigade as rear guard. The artillery will occupy the same positions in the column as heretofore. The artillery ammunition train will follow the train of the Third Division.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Chesterfield, S. C., March 3, 1865.

The major-general commanding respectfully calls the attention of officers of this command to orders and circulars previously published in regard to forwarding captured maps to department headquarters. Maps of the State of North Carolina are now particularly desired to facilitate military operations. Any person attached to this corps who now has or hereafter may become in possession of maps of the State of North Carolina will forward them without delay to corps headquarters. There has been a reluctance on the part of officers and men to comply with orders heretofore issued relative to the prompt transmittal of maps through the proper channels; those who fail to do so hereafter will be severely reprimanded.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Chesterfield, S. C., March. 3, 1865—6 a. m.

Major-General KILPATRICK,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I got your dispatch from Blakeny's last night. I want you to interpose between Charlotte and Cheraw till we are across. General Blair's head of column was thirteen miles southwest of Cheraw last night. General Jackson's division of Twentieth Corps pushed Butler's cavalry at a run through Chesterfield and across the bridges of Thompson's Creek, saving the one on the Wadesborough road, excepting one post, which the enemy had time to cut. The other bridge, on the Cheraw road, was burned. The balance of the corps is pretty well strung out by reason of the roads. I don't know exactly where General Davis is, but will direct him on Sneedsborough; and would like you to report to me the nature of the roads, especially the one from Mount Croghan by Sinclair's. By the way, that is your true position, and you should get a party over on the plank road on the line of Jones' Creek and cut off any courier-line from Wadesborough. I think Hardee will try and escape toward Wadesborough, and in that event you will strike his flank anyhow; and I want you to let go everything and cut his column, reporting to me, that I may throw infantry across; but until I hear the exact state of matters at Cheraw will move the Right Wing on Cheraw and Left on Sneedsborough. I don't much

care now what Beauregard does. He has no railroad now to circulate on and must foot it now, as we do, and he has not the trains that we have. Still he can move more rapidly than we. I want, of course, to get across Pedee and then will fight him where he pleases, and don't care for his Virginia re-enforcements. We have to meet them some time, and now as well as later; only let me know in advance, as much as possible, the route or routes on which his infantry moves. His cavalry gives no clue on which I can judge. My belief, however, is that Beauregard is tied to a railroad, and that railroad will be from Charlotte to Danville. I have no doubt that Wilmington is, or soon will be, in our hands, and, moreover, that Schofield will or has made a lodgment on the Goldsborough road. A mere strong picket of observation toward Monroe, to give General Davis notice of the approach of danger, will suffice. The bulk of your force should be north of Thompson's Creek, from Burch's up toward Jones' Creek. Reconnoitering parties should examine Pedee from Jones' Creek down, but do nothing to show a purpose to cross.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY COMMAND, ARMY OF INVASION,
In the Field, S. C., March 3, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Military Division of the Mississippi:

MAJOR: The enemy appeared in a considerable force this morning from the direction of Monroe, on the road to Blakeny's, and skirmished with Colonel Spencer's command, which crossed that road at 10 a. m. to-day at a point about six miles north of Blakeny's. After striking the Chesterfield and Monroe road I moved down to Hornsborough Post-Office, then out upon the Wadesborough road to within ten miles of that point, where my own headquarters now are. My scouts have felt the enemy all day upon the left. I think Allen's division of cavalry is now on the road from White's Store to Wadesborough. I do not know what other forces of the enemy may be with him. I send you a map* indicating my encampment and country watched by my troops. I have had a horrible road to march on to-day. To-morrow I shall move to the vicinity of Sneedsborough unless I hear from you. Five miles of this road will be red slate and firm, after that sandy, and of course good. I have a scouting party in Wadesborough, who will bring me information of the enemy in that direction. Artillery firing is now heard north of and near to Clay's Creek. Spencer, an hour since, had passed the road coming in from Meltonsville and White's Store, and should be at this moment in position, covering that road, where I directed him to encamp to-night. My command is all in camp, and I believe my position a good one; covering, however, as I do so many roads, I shall have comparatively but a small force to resist any determined attack upon either one. I will be massed, however, at an early hour to-morrow morning on Chesterfield and Wadesborough road, at a point just north of North Carolina line. Please inform me what operations you require of me to-morrow, and, if possible, for the next day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Cavalry.

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* Not found.

WILMINGTON, *March 3, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

I have no information of your movements later than February 24, when it is reported you had turned eastward from about Chesterville. I infer that you are moving direct for your original destination, and that you may be there by the 15th or 16th. I hope to have the railroad from New Berne ready for you by that time, and to meet you with supplies. It will take some time longer to get this road in use for want of rolling-stock. Will have supplies here for you if I learn you are coming this way. My latest information from General Grant is February 24. He had then learned of only three brigades of Lee's army having gone south.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 20. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO, *Wilmington, N. C., March 3, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

IV. The attention of commanding officers is called to General Orders, No. 64, series of 1862, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, requiring that all property captured by the army, or seized by any provost-marshal, or taken up estray, or taken from soldiers marching in the enemy's country, will be turned over to the chiefs of the staff departments to which such property would appertain on duty with the troops, and will be accounted for by them as captured property and used for the public service, unless claimed by owners and ordered by the commanding general to be returned. In accordance with the above order all captured horses, mules, &c., now in this command, and all captured in future, will be at once turned over to the quartermaster's department. Officers of the inspector-general's department will strictly report to these headquarters any non-compliance with this order.

* * * * * * *

VI. The Second and Third Divisions, Twenty-third Army Corps, will be prepared to march at daylight on the 6th instant. The following transportation will be allowed, viz: One wagon to each regiment for officers' baggage, two to each brigade headquarters, four to division headquarters, and three for each battery to carry forage. All surplus baggage will be stored in Wilmington in charge of an officer from each division, and will be sent to the command by rail or boat as soon as practicable. Forty rounds per man of infantry ammunition will be carried in wagons, also two days' rations of bread, coffee, sugar, and salt. All wagons will be loaded light (about 1,500 pounds each), and will carry in addition five days' rations of forage for their teams. The troops will start with five days' rations, or so much of it as they can carry in haversacks, which must last them full five days. If the Twenty-third Corps has not the full allowance of transportation required by this order, the deficiency will be supplied by the chief quartermaster from Major-General Terry's corps. Capt. George C. Winslow, assistant quartermaster, will act as chief quartermaster of the Twenty-third Army Corps, and will attend to the distribution of the transportation required by this order.

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By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
No. 22. } TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Northeast Station, N. C., March 3, 1865.

I. The commanding officer of the First U. S. Colored Troops will report with his command to Bvt. Brig. Gen. D. Bates, commanding First Brigade.

II. The commanding officer of the Thirtieth U. S. Colored Troops will report with his command to Bvt. Brig. Gen. D. Bates, commanding First Brigade.

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By command of Brig. Gen. C. J. Paine:

SOLON A. CARTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
No. 4. } *New Berne, N. C., March 3, 1865.*

The exigencies of the service require that the railroad from Morehead City to New Berne and the front be devoted exclusively to military business. Transportation of passengers and freight for private purposes will cease from and after this date. Officers of the army and navy will be passed upon showing their authority for being absent from their commands. Soldiers will be passed either upon the authority of their commanding officers when present or upon transportation tickets issued by the quartermaster's department. Civilian employés of the Government and others engaged in public business or duty will be passed upon passes issued from the quartermaster's department, or by the commandants at New Berne and Morehead City. Railroad employés and laborers will be passed upon tickets issued by Col. W. W. Wright, chief of the construction corps. Civilians not in Government employ will be passed in cases of necessity only on passes issued from these headquarters or those of Brigadier-General Palmer at New Berne. No tickets will be sold and no money for fares will be collected on the trains. A military superintendent and military conductors for the trains will be appointed by Brigadier-General Palmer, commanding First Division of the district, and will be charged with the execution of this order.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
No. 5. } *New Berne, N. C., March 3, 1865.*

I. Col. Charles H. Stewart, Third New York Volunteer Artillery, is hereby assigned to duty as chief of artillery of the district, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

II. The organization of the troops of the district into divisions being only provisional and temporary, the duties of the mustering department will be performed for the district and the divisions thereof as heretofore by Lieut. Col. T. J. Kennedy, Third New York Volunteer Artillery, assistant commissary of musters.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 2.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION,
DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
New Berne, N. C., March 3, 1865.

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XIV. The commanding officer of Roanoke Island will at once forward to New Berne all the officers and men of the troops at Roanoke Island, except the One hundred and first and One hundred and third Pennsylvania Volunteers. Captain Kimball will furnish the necessary transportation without delay.

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XVI. The brigade of Colonel Boughton will march at daylight to-morrow morning, executing its previous orders.

XVII. That portion of the Second Brigade commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Curtiss will march at daylight to-morrow morning to the point indicated in previous orders. Upon arrival there he will report his command to Colonel Claassen, commanding Second Brigade.

By command of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
March 3, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, U. S. Armies, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: Several cases having been referred to me lately from authorized traders at blockaded ports regarding the disposition that should be made of goods received by them in barter or by purchase from the inhabitants residing within our lines in their vicinity, I request that the question be referred to the honorable Secretary of the Treasury for his advice thereon. Parties receiving such articles usually desire to ship them North to be sold. The question is, can they be shipped North from a blockaded port with a permit from the Secretary of the Treasury in each case? I entertain the opinion that articles other than cotton received in exchange for goods which enter a blockaded port as a military necessity may leave that port under the same necessity, and I shall so decide and act in any urgent cases which may require action on my part before I learn the views of the Secretary of the Treasury. But goods actually purchased for money appear to be on a different footing.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 3, 1865.
(Received 8.10 p. m. 7th.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

About 3,200 white troops, organized as a division of two brigades, will move at once, as ordered in your letter of February 19. The prisoners for exchange will start north to-morrow or next day. I have no recent news from General Sherman.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 3, 1865—3 p. m.
(Received 8.10 p. m. 7th.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, &c., Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: For reasons that will be communicated by letter, I shall send but one brigade of white troops north at present, in compliance with your order of the 19th of February.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
March 3, 1865.

General MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General, Washington, D. C.:

We want coal for steamers. Were it not for a couple of transient steamers now here I would not be able to carry out the orders which I have received for moving troops. Can't something be done for us?

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 39.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT,
DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 3, 1865.

* * * * * * *

IX. The steamer Savannah, as soon as she shall have taken on rations and ordnance stores and a guard, will proceed to Bonneau's Ferry, on the East Branch of Cooper River, and ferry at that point across the river the Fifty-fourth New York and Twenty-first U. S. Colored Troops. The commanders of the troops will then endeavor to communicate with Brigadier-General Potter and supply his command with rations and act under his orders. If the steamer can go up the river as far as Huger's Bridge it will do so for the purpose of communicating with General Potter. The commander of the steamer will be held responsible that this order is obeyed.

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By command of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

NOTE.—If the Fifty-fourth New York Veteran Volunteers and Twenty-first U. S. Colored Troops should not be at the place indicated the steamer will await their arrival.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cheraw, S. C., March 4, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Inclosed please find a copy of my order of march. I do not expect to get everything across and the bridge taken up till Mon-

day night, so that General John E. Smith and the Seventeenth Corps will have ample opportunity to fill up their wagons. I expect the mounted force I sent to Florence will be back before Monday night. There is a story that 6,000 of the Twenty-third Corps have arrived at Fayetteville.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 53.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cheraw, S. C., March 4, 1865.

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II. The next series of movements of this command will be on Fayetteville, N. C. The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will move via Harrington's, Quick's Church, Springfield, Laurinburg, and Gilchrist's Church. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Major-General Blair commanding, will move via Bennettsville, Bam's Bridge, Stewartsville, and Gilopolis or Campbell's Bridge. General Blair will cross the Pedee with his leading division and all its material to-night. At 6 a. m. to-morrow General Logan will cross Bvt. Maj. Gen. John E. Smith's division and move it out via J. W. Harrington's to the vicinity of Phill's Creek, taking possession of Irby's Mills for the use of the division. General Blair will follow with the remainder of his command and move out to the vicinity of Naked Creek and take possession of all mills near Bennettsville. The provost-guard of the Seventeenth Army Corps, on duty in the town, will be relieved to-morrow by a guard from the rear division of the Fifteenth Army Corps. As soon as the crossing of the Seventeenth Army Corps is completed the remainder of the Fifteenth Army Corps will follow and move out, with its head of column on Phill's Creek.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Cheraw, S. C., March 4, 1865—8 p. m.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: I have just received your note and the copy of your orders. I would not be surprised if it were true that some of Schofield's command were at Fayetteville. I know Grant's anxiety for us, and he will move heaven and earth to co-operate. Your orders are all right. I have written to Slocum, who is at Sneedsborough, and he will use the road from Sneedsborough by Mark's Creek and McFarland's Bridge, and all roads north of it. It may be well for you to let Slocum have a day's start, that the columns may assume an echelon toward the north. Slocum can hardly have all across earlier than Tuesday, and I have intimated that I would like him to be ten miles out during all Tuesday. The river with him seems to be wider than with you. Get a good scout or two ready for me to send a messenger to Wilmington as soon as any of your heads of column is across Lumber River.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cheraw, S. C., March 4, 1865—9.10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Your note just received. I will try and have the scout ready for you. I would rather make short marches, if you do not object, on account of supplies, than to halt for General Slocum.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. DEPT. AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cheraw, S. C., March 4, 1865.

The attention of corps commanders is called to the fact that the foragers are in the habit of destroying or rendering useless the mills along the line of march and frequently burning large quantities of grain which are of great necessity for the use of the army. Last night a large quantity, over 1,000 bushels of shelled corn, was destroyed by the unauthorized burning of store buildings in this town. The general commanding desires that for the safety and comfort of the army some measures be taken to prevent the continuance of this destruction.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 24. HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Beaufort, S. C., March 4, 1865.

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II. Maj. C. H. Howard, aide-de-camp, staff of the major-general commanding, will forthwith proceed to Washington, D. C., on important public business, which transacted he will return without unnecessary delay via Fortress Monroe, Va., and Wilmington, N. C., with the view of joining the major-general commanding in the field. United States Government transports and quartermaster's department will furnish him the necessary transportation.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

SAML. L. TAGGART,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Cheraw, S. C., March 4, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to suggest, for the consideration of the commanding general, the propriety of releasing the prisoners we now have belonging to the South Carolina militia, old men and boys, on their parole and oath not to serve against the United States during the war. They are now but a burden to us, requiring an issue of subsistence when it is necessary to husband our supply, and can scarcely be looked upon as fit subjects for imprisonment or exchange.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cheraw, S. C., March 4, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Lieutenant-Colonel Strong spoke to me this morning about the mill near Kellytown. I did not order General Oliver to run the mill for General Smith, but said to him that I believed his own wagons were filled, or that he had a plenty, and in case that was so, I wished him to run the mill for General Smith. I should be much pleased if General Hazen would furnish General Smith with three or four days' supply. At any rate, general, keep General Smith ahead until he has filled his wagons.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Cheraw, S. C., March 4, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that, in obedience to your orders, I broke camp at an early hour this morning, and moving over Thompson's Creek, followed in rear of the Fourth Division, on the main road to Cheraw. Reaching Cheraw, I took a road leading almost north, and marched one mile above the town, where I went into camp, fronting my troops northeast, and connecting my left and right, respectively, with the Fourth and Second Divisions. Distance made to-day, six miles. My headquarters are near those of the Fifteenth Army Corps.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Cheraw, S. C., March 4, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command marched at 6.30 a. m. to day. Came upon the rear of First Division at Johnson's Creek, where halted until 2 p. m., then moved forward to Cheraw, where camped, having marched eleven miles. Casualties, 1 man wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Cheraw, S. C., March 4, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this division broke camp near Juniper Creek, on Camden and Cheraw road, at 7 o'clock this

a. m., and marched to and north of Cheraw, following Second Division, distance twelve miles. The last of the command bivouacked at 10 p. m. on plank road, in rear of the left of Fourth Division. The infantry is encamped in column by regiment, the First Brigade upon the right and the Second upon the left of the above-named road, artillery and trains in rear. These headquarters are about 500 yards in rear of the First Brigade. I would also state that I did not succeed in obtaining any meal from General Corse.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Powe's Plantation, S. C., March 4, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the following movements of my command this instant: I broke camp on Thompson's Creek at 7.30 a. m., crossed this creek and moved on the direct Camden and Cheraw road to Cheraw; thence on the Chesterfield road a distance of two miles, where my command is now in bivouac for the night on the left of General Woods' division. I found it necessary to lay half a mile of corduroy in order to pass my trains.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Thompson's Bridge, S. C., March 4, 1865.

Maj. C. BURKHARDT,
Commanding Twenty-ninth Missouri Infantry:

MAJOR: You will please move your command to the cross-roads seven miles from Cheraw, on the Camden and Cheraw road, and there await further orders. Your command will join the mounted forces of the army for an expedition of several days. You will provide your men with the necessary ammunition.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Lieut. Col. Hector Perrin, Seventh Illinois Mounted Infantry.)

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cheraw, S. C., March 4, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general directs that the Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry be ordered to report to Major-General Logan to join with an expedition being organized by him to go to Florence. The expedition will rendezvous at the cross-roads, seven miles from Cheraw, at 9 a. m. to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Cheraw, S. C., March 4, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. A. MOWER,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say to you that he wishes you to cross your command as soon as the bridge is completed and take up a strong position on the opposite side. Leave the brigade now doing provost duty until further orders. The general wishes that brigade to remain until the command is all across. You will cross your trains with the troops.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Cheraw, S. C., March 4, 1865.

Capt. C. CADLE, Jr.,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Seventeenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have just been down at the river, and I find that there is but one section of the bridge there. The officer in command informs me that he cannot lay the bridge without more boats and bridge materials.

I would suggest that a party of cavalry be sent down the river to give warning of the approach of the rebel gun-boat Pedee, should it attempt to come up.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. MOWER,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Cheraw, S. C., March 4, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that you need not move from your present camp to-night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Cheraw, S. C., March 4, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. SMITH,
Commanding Fourth Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding instructs me to direct you to send one regiment from your command down the railroad. They will march as far as they can to-day and encamp. To-morrow they will start back and destroy all trestle-work and bridges returning. Let them take all the pack animals they can and bring back forage. The general wishes a report of their operations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FOURTH DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
Cheraw, S. C., March 4, 1865.

Capt. AD. WARE, Jr.,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Fourth Div., Seventeenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: In compliance with instructions from headquarters Fourth Division, Seventeenth Army Corps, I directed Lieutenant-Colonel Hibbets, commanding Thirty-second Ohio Volunteers, to proceed with his regiment down the Darlington and Cheraw Railroad, and destroy the trestle-work on said road as far down as he could go to-day. I accompanied the regiment to Thompson's Creek; found the railroad and dirt road bridges destroyed by the enemy. A floating bridge was at once constructed and the troops and horses passed over. A report of the operations of the regiment after crossing the creek will be made by Lieutenant-Colonel Hibbets and forwarded on his return. I found 600 feet of high trestle-work on this side of the railroad bridge and caused the same to be destroyed, also one box-car.

I am, captain, with high respect, your obedient servant,

B. F. POTTS,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Cheraw, S. C., March 4, 1865—8 p. m.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing, Sneedsborough:

GENERAL: I got here at 10 a. m. and found the Seventeenth Corps in town and laying a pontoon bridge across the Pedee. The Fifteenth Corps is also here, and their trains are coming in all safe. The bridge is down; one division (Mower's) is across and is skirmishing about two miles out. Hardee commanded here, and had, it is said, about 15,000 men, but I doubt if he had more than the Charleston garrison and S. D. Lee's corps, in all, 10,000. There was a gun-boat here that had come up when the Yankees got Georgetown, but it was blown up to day about six miles down the river. There is a good deal of property here, such as guns (twenty-five), ammunition, &c., and more of a town than I expected to find. General Howard has sent a mounted force to destroy public property at and near Florence, which cannot return before the day after to-morrow, by which time I think he can have all his command across. Of course the sooner we reach Fayetteville the better, but we must move in compact masses, as either column may encounter the whole of Hardee's command, and it may be re-enforced by some from Charlotte.

I have no doubt Schofield is at work in North Carolina. I feel assured he is fully possessed of my views and will have Goldsborough with both the Wilmington and New Berne roads done by the 15th, the day appointed. Still, it is but prudent to continue as heretofore to collect all the food possible, in case we are delayed thereabouts. There is a story afloat that 6,000 of Schofield's men are already at Fayetteville, which will be a great success, better than we expected; but I know Grant will spare no efforts to second us; he is fully alive to the importance of our movement. Get your bridge down and cross over as fast as possible, and stretch out on the road you want, and I will order General Howard to conform to you. If you can get out ten miles during all Tuesday it will be as much as I expect.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pedee River, S. C., March 4, 1865—7 p. m.

Lieut. Col. A. C. MCCLURG,
Asst. Adjt. Gen. and Chief of Staff, Fourteenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: My division went into camp this 3.30 p. m. on the banks of the Pedee, on the right of the Twentieth Corps, just below Sneedsborough, by order of General Slocum, making a march of fifteen miles, the first five miles over bad roads, the last ten good.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES D. MORGAN,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. CAV. COMMAND, MILITARY DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, March 4, 1865—7. a. m.

[Maj. L. M. DAYTON:]

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that General Hampton attacked me with his entire command at 4 p. m. yesterday near my headquarters, where Major Audenried found me. I was not in position, but was just leaving camp; however, such attack was repulsed, until I could mass my troops, when he again made a deliberate attack, and was finally repulsed about 7 p. m. last evening. I expected to fight this morning, but I find that the enemy has left my front, and I believe him to be moving for Wall's Ferry, via Wadesborough. General Baird's division encamped last night five miles from this point on road to Sneedsborough. General Carlin's division is now passing. I believe the entire country now in rear to be free of the enemy. I await your further orders.

Very respectfully,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *March 4, 1865.*
(Received 12th.)

Major-General SHERMAN:

I expect to get Goldsborough by the 14th or 15th of this month if I have force enough to take it, and to have the railroad running from New Berne as far as I go. It will take some time longer to get the road in use from this point. We have no rolling-stock here. If you find it necessary to come this way supplies can be sent you by boat up the river as far as Elizabethtown. If you go direct to Goldsborough I think there can be no doubt of our having supplies there or near there on your arrival. If I find you are keeping off from the coast I shall push out toward Raleigh and join you. I have received nothing from you yet. Such information as I have places you about Rockingham to-day. I have not heard from General Grant since the 25th. No material change had taken place about Richmond at that time.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, N. C., March 4, 1865.

General G. S. DODGE,
Acting Chief Quartermaster:

GENERAL: All wagons, animals, and other property which may arrive at this harbor for the Twenty-third Army Corps are to be sent to Morehead City, also all that are now here, but not unloaded to-day. Property now here, and not taken with the troops on the 6th, will await further orders. The teams unloaded to-day are to be turned over to General Terry's quartermaster to replace those furnished by him to Twenty-third Army Corps. The pontoon train, which is expected from the North, will be sent to Morehead City; also any troops which may arrive from the Department of the South. Please have as little delay as possible in transmitting orders to vessels that may arrive. It will probably be best for you to remain here until these matters are adjusted, but I will see when I arrive at New Berne what the necessities are there. If the Manchester Railroad people succeed in getting in their trains, which I do not count on, take possession of them and turn them over to Colonel Wright on his arrival. It will probably be well to leave one or two engines and some cars west of the river. Do not send away the light-draft sea steamers that have been detained here, unless they are called for from the North, but call my attention to the matter in a week or ten days.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Batchelder's Creek, March 4, 1865.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 2d came to hand this evening. The concentration of my troops at Core Creek is completed to-night, except as to a couple of detachments, one of which was ordered in from Roanoke Island, and the other from a position on our left. The rains have been continuous since I left Wilmington, and as a result the roads from New Berne to Core Creek are nearly impassable. The distance by road, about twenty miles, could ordinarily have been made in a day, but over two days have now been taken by the troops in the movement, and the commandants report that they have pushed as fast as possible. The railroad is repaired to-night to within one mile of Core Creek, seven miles having been put in order during the past two days. The telegraph will reach the same point by noon to-morrow, and I shall then move my headquarters to that point, and the troops can be resupplied with rations and move another step in advance. Regarding the rapid reconstruction of the railroad as the most important thing, I have turned over to the construction corps a portion of our teams to haul bridge timbers and railroad ties from the woods, so that we have only ten wagons to a division for field use. It is of course manifest that so small amount of transportation can do no more than keep troops supplied within a mile or two of the railroad terminus, especially in the present condition of the roads. This constitutes my chief embarrassment, for I have no doubt of my ability to go into Kinston whenever I can feed my command there. The railroad from Core Creek to Kinston,

a distance of about thirteen miles, has been totally destroyed, the ties having been burned and the rails carried off, the road-bed being used as a turnpike road by the rebels for a year or more past. Colonel Wright, chief engineer, cannot promise to build more than from one mile to one and a half per day of this road, and has on hand only six miles of iron. He, however, expects a full supply before this will be laid. The forces in the vicinity of Kinston are reported about 1,500 strong, with a tête-de-pont on this side of the river in which are several pieces of artillery, variously reported from four to eight. The rebel troops are not of the most reliable character, being many of them Junior Reserves, &c. Their gun-boat or ram is reported to be anchored just under the railroad bridge preparatory to blowing up her and the bridge together if forced to evacuate. This vessel is believed to draw too much water to move away from her moorings except in a freshet. I have not reckoned her as an item of any consequence in the present problem, though if she be worth anything the present great rise of water in the river gives them an opportunity to show it. By the time you could reach Kinston, according to the tenor of your dispatch of the 2d, I should, even if obliged to confine myself closely to the railroad, be closely investing that place and able to open communication with you whenever you reach the vicinity, for there are at present no indication of the enemy's operating in any force on this side the Neuse. I am having obstructions removed from the Neuse near New Berne in order to run up some light boats and flats, with a view to ferry a portion of the command over the river below Kinston and push at once for that place in rear. I shall do this within three days unless I get information proving it entirely impracticable. My hope is that I shall in this way take the town, and possibly be able to supply myself during the high water by the river from New Berne. While this is progressing I shall push a sufficient force as close up to Kinston as they can be supplied, and shall use a portion of the cavalry battalion to reconnoiter as far to the left as possible, so as to meet the head of your column at the earliest day and hour. The roads from Kinston in the direction of Kenansville are reported good and dry. Those from New Berne to Kinston are now almost completely under water. There are numerous points above Kinston where a pontoon bridge could be very easily laid if you should be able to move the train with you. The troops were all in the various garrisons of the district on my arrival at New Berne, and as they had been in barracks for about two years I found many inevitable delays in getting them into the field. I have been able, however, to keep the railroad men fully employed without delaying them to wait for troops to move by pushing detachments out in advance. I assure you that nothing which energy and industry can accomplish shall be left undone, and I have strong hopes of being able to solve the supply question by the river route just as soon as the river obstructions can be got out of the way.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Batchelder's Creek, N. C., March 4, 1865.

Col. CHARLES H. STEWART,
Third New York Volunteer Artillery:

SIR: The commanding general directs me to say that paragraph I, General Orders, No. 5, from these headquarters, will not be interpreted

as relieving you for the present from duty as commandant of the post and fortifications of New Berne, as he deems your duties at New Berne of much more importance than any that would devolve upon you as chief of artillery under existing circumstances and situation of the forces in the field. You will be notified when a change of circumstances will require your presence at the front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 40.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, *Charleston, S. C., March 4, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

III. Col. E. A. Carman, Thirteenth New Jersey Volunteers, having reported for duty at these headquarters, is hereby assigned to the command of the Third Brigade, relieving Col. H. von Hammerstein, who will be assigned to a command by him.

* * * * * * *

By command of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 4, 1865.

Col. E. N. HALLOWELL,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: You will hold your command in readiness to embark for Savannah as soon as transportation can be furnished them, when you will be notified from these headquarters. On arriving at Savannah you will report to Brevet Major-General Grover, commanding. The Thirty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops will be in readiness to embark for Florida.

By command of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cheraw, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: An escaped prisoner, belonging to the Fifteenth Corps, who came in last night, reports that he heard General Butler tell one of his officers, who was going to take the order to a part of his command on this side of the river, that the whole army (rebel), trains and all, would pass through Rockingham.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cheraw, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: Two deserters from the enemy came in to-day and gave themselves up to First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps. They report that their command has gone to Charlotte. Captain Duncan, who is scouting toward Rockingham, also reports that a column moved in the direction of Charlotte. He found six caissons which the enemy had abandoned. These are in addition to those I told you of to-day.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cheraw, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: In conversation with a citizen this evening he accidentally let drop the information that Joe Johnston is generally expected to be marching parallel with us, and was expected at Wadesborough before this with the force at Charlotte. Hardee doubtless thinks he will form a junction with him at or near Rockingham. This, taken in connection with deserters' report that they (the rebels) mean yet to resist us between this point and Fayetteville, makes me think that some such thing may be Johnston's design, taking the offensive, particularly if he can isolate a corps. I think he is too late.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 12.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cheraw, S. C., March 5, 1865.

The attention of officers and soldiers of this army is called to the gross and criminal practice of profane swearing which prevails and is increasing amongst us, so much so that every sense of good principle and good taste is outraged. Have we forgotten that God is our kind Father and that He is helping us? Every insult to Him is a scourge to ourselves and invites disaster to our noble cause.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE.
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Cheraw, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of this date, with reference to the crossing of my command

over the Pedee River, and in reply thereto would inform you that I can have everything across by 12 o'clock. I would respectfully inquire whether it is the intention of the commanding general that I shall encamp my command on Phill's Creek or move farther out. I have the honor to request instructions on this head.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cheraw, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding requests that you direct the brigade now guarding the town to remain until the return of your mounted infantry from Florence, and guard the pontoon train as far as Springfield.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Cheraw, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. CHARLES R. WOODS,
Commanding First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to request you to move your command across the pontoon bridge over the Pedee River to-morrow morning at 7 a. m. Corps and military division headquarters will move with your division. The corps supply train will move with your supply train. You will please encamp your command in position along Phill's Creek.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Cheraw, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM B. HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to request you to move your division across the pontoon bridge over the Pedee River as soon as the Seventeenth Army Corps shall have crossed; and to push your command out in supporting distance of General John E. Smith, who is in camp as directed in General Howard's order of last night, a copy of which has been furnished you. You will please ascertain the hour at which you can commence crossing.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Harrington's Plantation, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command crossed the Great Pedee at Cheraw on the pontoon bridge at 3 p. m. to-day, and moved forward on Fayetteville road to Harrington's plantation, where camped, having marched five miles. Captured eight prisoners.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Phill's Creek, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this division broke camp at 6.30 o'clock this a. m., crossed Pedee River, and moved out on Fayetteville road to near Phill's Creek; distance, four miles. The command is encamped in line upon the north and south sides of the main road, fronting east. Three grist-mills are being run for the command, one of them only amounting to much. I encountered the enemy's picket about two miles and a half west of the river. Being obliged to retreat rapidly they abandoned 2 wagons loaded with ammunition, 2 battery forges, 1 battery wagon, and 3 caissons filled with ammunition. These headquarters are upon the south side of main road about 500 yards in rear of right of Second Brigade.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Cheraw, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Brevet Major-General CORSE,
Commanding Fourth Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to request you to cross the pontoon bridge over the Pedee River with your command in rear of the First Division of this corps. You will withdraw your rear guard when every soldier and camp follower and the mounted infantry still absent from the command shall have crossed to the other side of the river. The pontoon bridge will be taken up as soon as you have crossed and will move with your division. You will please encamp your command in position along Phill's Creek.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 34.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Powe's Plantation, S. C., March 5, 1865.

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II. The troops of this division will be in readiness to march and await orders at 8 a. m. to-morrow, the Second Brigade in advance, First Brigade in the center, and the Third Brigade in the rear. Battery and

trains in same order as heretofore. In case the Third Brigade is detained at Cheraw, to await the arrival of our mounted infantry, General Rice will throw one regiment in rear of all trains, and carry out orders in regard to rear guard, &c.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Powe's Plantation, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Col. F. J. HURLBUT,
Commanding Third Brig., Fourth Div., Fifteenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: In compliance with orders from corps headquarters you will retain your brigade at Cheraw until the entire corps and its camp followers have crossed the Pedee River, as well as the mounted force sent to Florence. As soon as you shall have ascertained that these forces have crossed you will yourself cross with your brigade and move as guard to the pontoon train as far as Springfield, N. C., unless otherwise ordered. Unless you receive different orders from and through the proper authority, you will leave the city without further injury, seeing that no soldiers of your command are left to commit any outrages whatever, moving quietly from the city, and bringing across all stragglers.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

LOUIS H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 2. } HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FOURTH DIV., FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Cheraw, S. C., March 5, 1865.

This command having been ordered into Cheraw for the purpose of doing provost duty therein, it is hereby directed that no soldier enter either the house or premises of a citizen unless under orders, and that no houses, outbuildings, or fences be torn down or destroyed without special permission. All pillaging whatever is expressly prohibited. Regimental and company commanders will be held strictly responsible for the conduct of their men.

By order of Col. F. J. Hurlbut, Fifty-seventh Illinois Infantry, commanding:

FRED. MOTT,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 17. } HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FOURTH DIV., FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Cheraw, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Owing to the danger apprehended from fires bursting out, and from other commands moving through the city, regimental commanders are instructed to once more charge their company officers to see to it that the men on duty use the utmost vigilance to protect the town from fire and pillage.

By order of Col. F. J. Hurlbut, Fifty-seventh Illinois Infantry, commanding:

FRED. MOTT,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cheraw, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Taking into consideration the question of forage, the general would prefer that you move your command to Bennettsville to-morrow. These headquarters will be established during to-morrow near Easterling's Mills.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 58. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Cheraw, S. C., March 5, 1865.

The movement to-morrow will be to Bennettsville.

Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will have the advance and will move forward at 9 a. m.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will follow the Third Division.

Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will move forward at 9 a. m.

The First Regiment Michigan Engineers, Col. J. B. Yates commanding, will move forward with their train at 8 a. m., and closing up on the Fourth Division will follow it.

Colonel Yates will cause the road to be placed in repair.

As soon as General Force reaches the town of Bennettsville he will cause it to be properly guarded and prevent the committing of any excesses. He will cause all the provisions in the town to be gathered together, and, if practicable, fill his wagons.

The train of these headquarters will move with the First Division.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair.

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Cheraw, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding wishes you to move your train across the river as soon as J. E. Smith's division is over. He wishes you, if practicable, to take with you one of the large guns at the depot, that is either a 20-pounder Parrott or a Blakely gun.

Very respectfully,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Cheraw, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: I was on the point of making an order for the next movement, but on looking over my last, No. 16, I find it covers the ground up to our next objective. You have the choice of roads, and I understand from Captain Ludlow that you want McFarland's and Love's

Bridges. All right. Let General Davis lead into Fayetteville, holding the Twentieth in support with the cavalry on his left rear. I will hold General Howard back, but close enough to come up if Joe Johnston wants to fight. I will now fight him if he dares, and therefore wish you to act on that idea, keeping each corps ready to hold the enemy if he appears in force on your left, but his strength must be developed before other corps are called from their roads. I have notified General Howard of this order, and he has simply asked instead of holding on here to make slow marches to gather forage and meal. I send you a copy of his orders of march;* I also send you an open letter for General Kilpatrick, which read and forward to him.†

Major Audenried, of my staff, left him yesterday, ten miles this side of Wadesborough, and my orders to him were to hold his command covering all roads, especially the plank road between Wadesborough and your troops. After you have got a covering force across the Pedee let General Kilpatrick have the bridge and move out to your left front, say Rockingham. We have been badly treated by the weather, but I hope for a better spell henceforth. I will get messengers through to Wilmington the moment any head of column is across Lumber Creek, and feel sure that Schofield will meet us in force at Goldsborough. I will draw from Savannah, Charleston, and Wilmington at least 25,000 men to re-enforce our army at Goldsborough, and will put them under Schofield as the center or reserve, restoring the organization of the Atlanta campaign. With that army replenished and refreshed we can make things move. Indeed I feel confident that nothing can now stand before us. I find here additional symptoms of discomfiture. Three thousand six hundred barrels of powder are among our spoils, and the surgeons of the Confederate hospitals admit that Hardee left them without supplies or even orders. Keep me well advised of progress, and I will make things conform to your movements.

I am, &c.,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 25. } HDQRS. LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA, *Near Pegues' Crossing, Great Pedee River, S. C., March 5, 1865.*

I. Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis, commanding Fourteenth Army Corps, will cross his command over the Great Pedee River at this point and move to Fayetteville, N. C., by way of Love's Bridge road.

II. Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams, commanding Twentieth Army Corps, will cross his command over the Great Pedee River as soon as the cavalry has crossed, and will move to Fayetteville, N. C., by way of McFarland's Bridge road. Brevet Major-General Kilpatrick, commanding cavalry, will have the use of the pontoon bridge after the Fourteenth Army Corps has crossed.

III. Corps commanders will select from the pack animals of their commands fifty of their best mules, and turn them over to-day to Lieut. Col. J. Moore, commanding pontoon train. Colonel Moore will give in exchange animals now in his train.

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By command of Maj. Gen. H. W. Slocum:

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

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* See March 4, p. 676. † See March 5, p. 692.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that he wishes your command to cross when the bridge is completed, but in accordance with orders from General Sherman, whenever General Kilpatrick reports his command ready to cross, your corps will have to give way to him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Crossing of Great Pedee, [March 5], 1865.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. G. P. BUELL,
Commanding Second Brigade:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that as soon as the bridge is completed you cross your brigade and take position for the defense of the bridge on the hills beyond, covering the main road leading to Rockwell [Rockingham]. Should General Kilpatrick's command report and desire to cross before, or while you are crossing your brigade, you will give him the bridge without delay and renew your passage as soon as he is over. The remainder of the division will cross at daylight. Further orders will be given you in the morning.

Very respectfully,

J. E. EDMONDS,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Cheraw, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Major-General KILPATRICK,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I was on the point of making a new general order of movement, but on examining my last, No. 16, I find it provides for the next stage.

General Howard has crossed here and is now passing trains and troops, but I will hold him back to allow General Slocum to lead to Fayetteville. General Howard has sent some mounted infantry down to Florence to damage things there, and they cannot return till to-morrow. In the meantime General Slocum will pass over and move out on roads leading toward McFarland's and Love's Bridges. I will hold the Right Wing back and in reserve, keeping on roads to the south of General Slocum. As soon as he has a covering force across the Pedee he will notify you and give you his bridge, when move out to Rockingham and thence conform to his movements, getting up to Solemn Grove, and thence along down south of Little River to the roads coming into Fayetteville from Manchester. There is a rumor here that General Schofield is already at Fayetteville. It is certain that he took Wilmington, not by the evacuation of the place, but by force, capturing Hagood's brigade. This simplifies our work very

much, and will give me larger re-enforcement as soon as I need it. Hardee left here in haste and confusion, going across Pedee and burning the bridge, but we already have a pontoon bridge across and two divisions out a couple of miles. Butler's division of cavalry is with him. The enemy left here valuable stores, 24 good guns, 3,600 barrels of powder, 2,000 muskets, the hospitals, and much ammunition and stores. I don't think Joe Johnston will try to concentrate his forces short of Raleigh.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Cheraw, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Brevet Major-General KILPATRICK,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 7 a. m. March 4 is at hand. The general-in-chief directs me to say he wrote you full instructions this morning, sent through General Slocum. When General Davis' command is well closed up, General Slocum will give you the bridge to cross.

I am, general, yours, &c.,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, N. C., March 5, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: I have sent several dispatches to General Sherman, some of which I have no doubt will reach him. I have received nothing from him yet. The paroled officers who have arrived here and others all agree in the report that he was near Chesterville, on the Columbia and Charlotte road, on the 24th, and that he turned eastward from that place. I presume he will march straight for Goldsborough, passing through or near Fayetteville. We are having heavy or continuous rains here. If they extend into the interior his march will be slow. I have at length got teams enough to make a start from this point with a portion of my troops. I shall send General Couch with the two divisions of the Twenty-third Corps to join General Cox beyond New Berne. He will take the coast road to about Onslow and then make straight for Kinston. I expect him to effect a junction with Cox in five or six days. I will go to Morehead City to-morrow. I have not heard from Cox since he went to New Berne. I expect him to get to Kinston before Couch joins him. I will then push for Goldsborough and hold it until General Sherman arrives; or if I find he is keeping out farther from the coast I will advance toward Raleigh and join him. I will be able to move against Goldsborough with about 20,000 effective men. General Terry will remain here with his command for the present, but will advance along the railroad as fast as Colonel Wright can repair it, or as soon as he can get the necessary transportation to move inde-

pendently. Nothing has arrived here yet for the railroad. Indeed, the weather has been so bad that we have had but little communication by sea since the capture of Wilmington. Much of the time no vessel whatever has been able to cross the bar. The delivery of prisoners by the enemy was completed yesterday, and I am sending them North as rapidly as practicable. The well ones can all be sent in a short time, but it will take much longer to dispose of the sick, as they can only be placed on hospital vessels. They have been made comfortable here and are doing well. The whole number of prisoners delivered is about 10,000, 100 colored troops among the number. I will send the rolls to the Adjutant-General of the Army for his disposition.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 22. HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO, *Wilmington, N. C., March 5, 1865.*

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VI. The commanding officers of the Fifteenth and Twenty-third Indiana Batteries will report for the time being with their commands to Brig. Gen. J. R. Hawley, commanding District of Wilmington, and will remain at this post until further orders from these headquarters.

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XV. The Fifth Tennessee Infantry is hereby relieved from duty with the Second Brigade, Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, and will proceed without delay to Nashville, Tenn., and report to the chief mustering officer of the State for muster-out of service on the expiration of their term of enlistment. The commanding officer will report to Brig. Gen. Joseph R. Hawley, commanding District of Wilmington, for the purpose of taking charge of 107 prisoners to the North. The quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

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XIX. Bvt. Brig. Gen. E. L. Hayes, lieutenant-colonel One hundredth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, being unfit for field duty, will report in person without delay to Brig. Gen. J. R. Hawley, commanding District of Wilmington, for assignment to duty.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, N. C., March 5, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. N. COUCH,
Commanding Second and Third Divisions, 23d Army Corps:

GENERAL: You will please march without unnecessary delay with the Second and Third Divisions, Twenty-third Army Corps, to join the troops under Major-General Cox, now operating from New Berne toward Kinston and Goldsborough. You will take the coast road leading to New Berne as far as Onslow or its vicinity, and then the

most practicable road toward Kinston, and march directly for that place unless you receive further orders from me, or unless circumstances shall render a deviation from that course evidently advisable. Your march should average at least fifteen miles per day. The third day's march will bring you to the vicinity of Onslow, from which point please report to me by courier to New Berne, informing me where you are and what point you will reach on the following day, so that I may send you further instructions if necessary; also give me all the information you may have obtained concerning the rebels in your front and other matters of interest; also inform me by the first courier, or as soon after as practicable, when and in what manner you will be able to cross Trent River. You will supply your troops from the country as far as practicable, so as to save the supplies carried in wagons for an emergency. If you find it impossible from any cause to reach Kinston or effect a junction with General Cox in that vicinity you will march by the most practicable road to New Berne.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, N. C., March 5, 1865.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Provisional Corps, Wilmington, N. C.:

GENERAL: The two divisions of the Twenty-third Army Corps now here will march to-morrow to join the troops operating from New Berne, leaving only your command in this portion of the department. I shall also start for New Berne in a day or two, and will probably remain with the troops operating from that point. I have directed that the railroad from this point to Goldsborough be put in running order as soon as possible, and expect Colonel Wright here very soon with the necessary materials and workmen. I desire you to aid him as far as practicable in prosecuting the work, and to advance along the road with your main force according to the progress of the work. I may at any time desire you to join me at or near Goldsborough by a rapid march. Please make, as soon as practicable, all necessary preparations for such a movement. I presume General Sherman is now near Fayetteville and marching toward Goldsborough, which point he may reach by the 15th or 16th of this month. He may, however, come near this place and send his trains here for supplies. I have sent several couriers with dispatches to him (in cipher), and hope to hear from him in the same way in a few days. Please continue the effort to communicate with General Sherman by trustworthy scouts, and be prepared to aid him in any way or to execute any orders he may send. You will receive and act on any communication from him which may be addressed to me. I have directed Brigadier-General Hawley, commanding District of Wilmington, to report to you, so that all the troops in this portion of the department will be under your command during my absence.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, N. C., March 5, 1865.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH R. HAWLEY,
Commanding District of Wilmington:

GENERAL: During my absence from Wilmington, and so long as General Terry's corps remains in this vicinity, you will report to General Terry or the officer in command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF WILMINGTON,
No. 4. } *Wilmington, N. C., March 5, 1865.*

I. Bvt. Brig. Gen. Joseph C. Abbott, commanding Second Brigade, First Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps, is hereby assigned to duty as commandant of the post of Wilmington.

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III. Maj. F. W. Prince, Sixteenth New York Heavy Artillery, is hereby assigned to the command of the post of Fort Fisher.

IV. The company of [Second] Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery at Fort Fisher, having been assigned to this command by the major-general commanding the Department of North Carolina, is directed to report to Major Prince, commanding post of Fort Fisher, N. C.

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By command of Brig. Gen. J. R. Hawley:

E. LEWIS MOORE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Batchelder's Creek, N. C., March 5, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER U. S. NAVY,
New Berne:

I am making preparations to move some boats up the Neuse River, and would respectfully request that the picketing of the river be so thorough as to prevent any spy going up in small boat or otherwise to warn the enemy.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

U. S. STEAMER AGAWAM,
New Berne, N. C., March 5, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX:

I have received a telegram from you requesting me to picket the river to prevent persons passing up in small boats, as you are making preparations to move some boats up the river. I should like to be informed what movement you propose to make, and if the naval force here can co-operate. The vessels at present stationed here draw too much water to go above this point. Having just arrived here I should like to be informed of the situation, and what is expected to be done.

A. C. RHIND,
Commander.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 6. } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT, *Batchelder's Creek, N. C., March 5, 1865.*

The commanding general takes pleasure in announcing to the troops of the provisional brigades of the command that but few days can elapse before communication will be open with the grand army under General Sherman. They will, therefore, be but a short time longer absent from their proper commands, and the inconveniences of their present situation will soon be ended. Those whose time of service has expired will then have the opportunity of being regularly mustered out and discharged, and the others will be reunited to their old comrades. Under these circumstances he looks to them with confidence for a continuance of the zealous and cheerful service they have rendered since landing in North Carolina, and which he takes this public method of recognizing. The officers of the provisional brigades have also been in embarrassing circumstances, owing to the peculiar nature of their duties and the irregular responsibility devolving on them for arms and stores issued. Every means will be taken to remove this responsibility when they shall join their proper commands, and all who use a reasonable care and business accuracy in the performance of the duties devolving upon them need feel no anxiety lest they should be left chargeable with public property over which they would cease to have full control. This subject will receive immediate attention upon the reunion of the commands, and the proper orders will unquestionably be issued from General Sherman's headquarters disposing of the matter in a manner entirely satisfactory to those concerned.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 7. } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT, *Core Creek, N. C., March 5, 1865.*

The First and Second Divisions, District of Beaufort, will move at 7 o'clock to-morrow morning to position at Gum Swamp beyond the crossing of the railroad and the Dover road. The infantry of General Palmer's division will move directly up the railroad; wagons and artillery moving by the most practicable route to the rear onto the Dover road, and thence to Gum Swamp, in rear of General Carter's division and train. General Carter's division will move by the Dover road. General Ruger's division, Twenty-third Corps, will remain in camp to-morrow, but General Ruger will cause a working party to be put upon the cross-road leading from the railroad to the Dover road near General Carter's present camp, and have the road put in thorough repair for passing teams and artillery.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, U. S. Armies:

GENERAL: In compliance with instructions, 465 officers and 167 men, prisoners of war, start for City Point to-day per steamer Illinois. I am

not certain that the steamer can reach her destination, as I do not know what depth of water can be carried up James River, but the arrangement is the best that I could make for want of suitable sea-going transports.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 41.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 5, 1865.

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III. So much of Special Orders, No. 40, paragraph III, as assigns Col. E. A. Carman to the command of the Third Brigade is hereby revoked. Colonel Carman will proceed to Savannah and await orders there to be assigned to duty. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

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By command of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Lieut. Col. S. L. WOODFORD,
Commanding Post of Charleston, S. C.:

COLONEL: I would suggest that two or three additional points be designated where the people can register their names and subscribe to the oath. I hear that the crowd is so large and the delay so great that many persons are obliged to spend time that they can hardly spare. I have also heard that it is proposed to get up a demonstration on Thursday next by the colored people. If it meet your approval it is very well, but the city being under martial law no assemblage should be allowed without your previous sanction. One thing more; I would suggest that an order prohibiting enlisted men being in the streets (except on duty) after retreat would at the present time assist in preventing the numerous robberies and irregularities. This need be only temporary.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Cheraw, March 6, 1865.

Maj. Gen. O. O. HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: A copy of your order issued at Easterling's for to-morrow's movement inclosed to the general-in-chief has been received.*

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*See No. 54, p. 699.

The general desires me to say the order is satisfactory to him, and, in modification, has only instructed General Logan to remain in his present camp until such time as the Twentieth Corps, now passing, can get by him onto the left-hand road via Mark's Creek.

I am, general, yours, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Easterling's, S. C., March 6, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: Captain Duncan, commanding a small party of scouts dressed in rebel uniform, has just returned, having proceeded this morning to Laurel Hill, where he found a small squad of militia on picket. He left them undisturbed, returning by Springfield. The road he went out on (known as the Telegraph road) connects with the Easterling's Mill and Fayetteville road at Laurel Hill. At Springfield Captain Duncan saw a Doctor McCrea, with the rank of major in the rebel army, who, taking his party for rebels, inquired where Sherman's army was, and if there was any probability of its coming that way. On being told that it might possibly come there, he replied, "If it does we will be badly fooled, as our men are all going to Charlotte, expecting Sherman to go up there." The Easterling's Mill road is generally called the old Stage road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES WILSON,
Colonel, Provost-Marshal-General, Army of the Tennessee.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 54.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Easterling's Mills, S. C., March 6, 1865.

Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, commanding Fifteenth Army Corps, will move to-morrow to the crossing of Crooked Creek. The brigade on duty in Cheraw will move with the bridge train after the return of the mounted infantry from Florence, following the left wing of the Fifteenth Army Corps (via the road by Quick's Church) to Springfield. The Seventeenth Army Corps will move to Beaver Dam Creek. The Fifteenth Army Corps will remain at Crooked Creek until the arrival of the bridge train. These headquarters will be established during to-morrow at or near Brightsville.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Phil's Creek, S. C., March 6, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adj. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inform you, for the information of the commanding general, that the force of mounted infantry sent to destroy

the Cheraw and Darlington Railroad succeeded in reaching but not in entering Florence, encountering quite a heavy force of the enemy's cavalry. I have had as yet no official report of the expedition, but hear that they have destroyed all the trestling between Cheraw and that point. As soon as Colonel Williams' report is received I will forward it to department headquarters.*

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Easterling's Mills, March 6, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded.

A captain who accompanied the expedition reports that several trains of troops were ready to be run out of Florence.

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Cheraw, March 6, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Orders of march have been changed so that the Twentieth Corps is at this moment crossing the Pedee at the same point as your command, and it is intended for it to take the left-hand road just beyond Phill's Creek and your headquarters. The general-in-chief desires you to hold your corps in camp until the Twentieth has passed and out of your way, when you will resume your march as per instructions from department headquarters. The Twentieth Corps will continue moving during the night and until out of your road.

I am, general, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Grant's Mill, S. C., March 6, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that in compliance with orders received from you I left my camp beyond Cheraw at 6 o'clock this morning, and crossing the pontoon bridge over the Pedee River marched to my present camp on Phill's Creek, a distance of five miles. While the rear of my division was passing through Cheraw there was a terrific explosion of powder and shell near my column, caused by some great carelessness on the part of men or officers, by which several in my division were killed and wounded. I have directed Brevet Brigadier-General Woods, commanding the First Brigade, whose command was in the immediate neighborhood when the unfortunate affair occurred,

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* See Part I, p. 254.

to make a report of the circumstance. My troops are facing eastward, division headquarters being near the mill. Inclosed please find complete list of casualties during the campaign.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Phill's Creek, S. C., March 6, 1865.

Capt. FRED. H. WILSON,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Div., Fifteenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: In reply to your communication of this date asking a detail of the circumstances attending the explosion which occurred near this command to-day, I have the honor to state that the explosion was caused by the accidental ignition of a large quantity of rebel ammunition which had been found in the town of Cheraw and hauled out and thrown in a deep ravine lying between the town and the pontoon bridge. The ammunition consisted of loaded shells and loose powder. The bottom of the ravine to the depth of four or five feet was filled with it, and powder was scattered up the banks of the ravine, and for several rods from the edge of the ravine. While the brigade was halting, having stacked arms to await the passage of the train, of which it was the rear guard, some of the men at a distance of several rods from the edge of the ravine are reported to have applied fire to some small cakes of powder found upon the ground. The fire immediately ran to the edge of the ravine, down the bank, and exploded the immense piles of ammunition in the bottom of the ravine. One man of this brigade was killed and 1 officer and 4 men wounded. After diligent inquiry I am unable to ascertain the names of the men who set fire to the powder, but have no doubt they were ignorant, as I was myself, that any explosive material was in the ravine. The following-named officers and men were near the ravine when or shortly before the explosion occurred: Capt. Edward H. Webster* and Lieut. George H. Williams,* and Private John Werden, Company G, Seventy-sixth Ohio Infantry. Sergeants Clark and King, Company A, Twelfth Indiana Infantry, have been implicated by rumor in setting fire to the powder. Corporal Sergeant and Private Freeman, of the same company, and Thomas McPeak, of H Company, all of the Twelfth Indiana Infantry, are reported to know who ignited the powder.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. WOODS,
Brevet Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Harrington's Plantation, S. C., March 6, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command remained in camp to-day. Captured 11 prisoners.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

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* Of the Twelfth Indiana Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 6, 1865.

General HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, &c.:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to say that you need not pull out to-morrow morning until he communicates with you through one of his staff, but to hold your command in readiness to move as soon as the road shall be clear.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Phill's Creek, S. C., March 6, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command remained in same position as on the 5th instant. Details from the two brigades are running three grist-mills, from which a sufficient supply, for the present, of meal will be obtained.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Irby's Plantation, S. C., March 6, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following as a report of the movements of my division this instant: I broke camp at 8 a. m., and moving through Cheraw, crossed the Pedee River, and thence upon the Fayetteville road via Harrington's plantation and Grant's Mill, and am now in bivouac near Irby's plantation in a defensible position on what is called the Sand Hill road. One of my brigades (Third) is still in Cheraw by direction of the major-general commanding corps. My command has marched a distance of eight miles.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Powe's Plantation, March 6, 1865.

Brig. Gen. E. W. RICE,
Commanding First Brigade:

GENERAL: The Third Brigade is under orders to remain and guard the pontoon train as far as Springfield. It will, therefore, be necessary for you to throw one regiment in rear of the trains of this division, the remaining three to move on the right of the ordnance and supply trains. You will move out as soon as the trains move, without further orders.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. M. Corse:
L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 59. } *Bennettsville, S. C., March 6, 1865.*

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II. The movement to-morrow will be on the Fayetteville road to Beaver Dam Creek. The Third Division, Brig. Gen. M. F. Force commanding, will have the advance and will move forward at 8 a. m. The Fourth Division, Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith commanding, will follow the Third Division, being prepared to move at 9 o'clock. The First Division, Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower commanding, will follow the Fourth Division, being prepared to move at 10 o'clock. The First Michigan Engineers, Col. J. B. Yates commanding, with tool wagons and ambulances, will follow the troops of the Third Division, and their train will follow the train of the same division. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will move out at 7.30 a. m. The troops will move on the right of the train, and will be disposed so as to cover it as well as practicable.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Bennettsville, S. C., March 6, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that you will leave the Thirty-first Illinois in town until the entire command has moved out. They will then cause all stragglers to be sent to their commands and move forward. We move about eight miles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 53. } *Bennettsville, S. C., March 6, 1865.*

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II. This command will move forward at 8 a. m. to-morrow in the advance. The Second Brigade, Col. G. F. Wiles commanding, will have the advance, moving troops on right of road. The First Brigade, Col. C. Fairchild commanding, will follow the Second Brigade. Artillery and trains in usual order.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Cheraw, S. C., March 6, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing, Sneedsborough:

GENERAL: I shall in person to-day cross the Pedee and go out on the main Fayetteville road about five miles, to the point on Phill's Creek

where are encamped two divisions of the Fifteenth Corps. There I shall await the fact that you are all across and off for Fayetteville, and will try and hold the Right Wing ready to turn to you in case Johnston attempts to strike you in flank or to move on toward Fayetteville, aiming to arrive there or near about the same time with your rear. I propose your command should first enter and occupy Fayetteville and secure the bridge if possible, otherwise to make a lodgment across with pontoons. En route break the railroad which is known as the Wilmington and Charlotte, but is only partially down to Rockingham. It is of little importance, but being on it, we might as well use up some of its iron. At its depots you may find some corn and meal. On approaching Fayetteville you may give out that if the bridge is destroyed we will deal harshly by the town, but if there be no positive resistance and if the enemy spare the bridge I wish the town to be dealt with generously. Of course we will dispose of all public stores and property but will spare private houses. Use wheat, corn, meal, bacon, animals, wagons, &c., needed by your command, but try and keep the foragers from insulting families by word or rudeness. It might be well to instruct your brigade commanders that we are now out of South Carolina and that a little moderation may be of political consequence to us in North Carolina. At Fayetteville if we can secure boats of any kind, even coal flats, I will send down Cape Fear River the bulk of the refugees, white and black, that swells our numbers and consumes the food necessary for our combatants. I have no doubt of having daily intercourse with you by courier or in person, and only name these points that you may initiate measures to accomplish these ends. The enemy has abandoned many caissons loaded with ammunition on his route of retreat, and if you can push or threaten him about Rockingham I doubt not he will drop more. The moment General Davis strikes the plank road he should push with all possible speed into Fayetteville.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SNEEDSBOROUGH, *March 6, 1865—11 a. m.*

Major-General SHERMAN,
General-in-Chief:

GENERAL: I have sent Williams to Cheraw to cross, with orders to push direct to McFarland's Bridge. Kilpatrick is now crossing at this point and will act on your orders of yesterday, which were forwarded to him at once.

I hope to get Davis across by daylight, and shall move with him as far as Love's Bridge, and perhaps to Fayetteville. All your directions as to the course to be pursued at Fayetteville will be remembered. We have had trouble with the bridge here, but I hope are all right now. The river is 850 feet wide and our pontoon train is not good. Boats have been lost, and the organization has run down since Buell left it; but we are all right now, and there will be some rapid marching when we get started.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 19.

HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Crossing of Great Pedee River, S. C., March 6, 1865.

The corps will move to-morrow in the direction of Fayetteville, N. C., as follows:

General Carlin will move at daylight from the vicinity of the river via Love's (or Blue's) Bridge by way of Rockingham, or by a more direct road, leaving Rockingham to the left, if such a road can be found.

General Baird will move at daylight, and crossing as soon as he can obtain possession of the bridge, will follow General Carlin.

General Morgan will cross in rear of General Baird, and will cover the raising of the bridge, giving all necessary instructions and assistance to Lieutenant-Colonel Moore, who will report to and receive orders from him until further instructions. The reserve artillery and ammunition train will, as usual, move under General Morgan.

General Slocum, commanding Left Wing, will move with the Fourteenth Corps, and his headquarters train will be admitted to any position in the column which he may select.

Corps headquarters train will move with General Baird.

In the absence of further orders, the different commanders will march each morning at daylight and make the greatest distance possible each day, reporting their position every evening.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Crossing of Great Pedee River, S. C., March 6, 1865.

Brevet Brigadier-General BUELL,
Comdg. Second Brig., First Div., Fourteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to express to you his satisfaction with the energy and perseverance you have displayed in laying the bridge over the Great Pedee, and his gratification at its completion. You are now relieved from duty at the river and will march your brigade to-night with its division. During the march on Fayetteville, Lieutenant-Colonel Moore will report his command to Brigadier-General Morgan, and will raise the bridge under his directions. He will report to you again at the latter place. If you have any instructions or suggestions which will aid Colonel Moore in raising the bridge please give them to him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, &c.,

A. C. McCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Sneedsborough, N. C., March 6, 1865.

This command will march to-day to Cheraw to cross the river as follows: Second Division at 8 a. m.; First Division at 9 a. m.; Third Division at 10 a. m. Each division will cover its own trains. The artillery will precede the train of the Second Division.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Great Pedee River, March 6, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow to Mark's Creek as follows: Second Division at 6 a. m. The First Division will march in time to close up with the trains of the leading division, the Third Division marching in rear of the First Division. General Geary will march one unencumbered brigade in advance. General Ward will detail one brigade as a rear guard. One section of artillery will accompany the rear guard; the remainder of the artillery will march in rear of the advanced brigade. The artillery ammunition train will follow the train of the leading division, each division covering its own train.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 6, 1865—12.30 p. m.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

Sheridan will push on to Lynchburg and if information received there justifies it, he will push on into North Carolina and join you and Sherman with a cavalry force of about 8,000 men.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 23. HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wilmington, N. C., March 6, 1865.

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IV. The Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry having reported at these headquarters, in compliance with orders from headquarters Armies of the United States, will report for orders to Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry, commanding Provisional Corps.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GUM SWAMP, *March 6, 1865.*

Col. W. W. WRIGHT, *New Berne:*

The old track is simply capsized from Core Creek for about five miles and a half. The remainder of the way the iron has been carried off. The plank that was sent up need not be used for our purposes, but you can use it as you originally intended.

I would like to arrange so that the road shall be finished each night to a point where our wagons may meet the trains by driving right down the old roadbed. This they can do if it be not necessary to scatter ties, &c., in advance of the point to which each day's work will finish it.

This arrangement will save several miles of travel, and as I have so few wagons it is very important to me. Still I do not wish to impede your progress.

How fast can you relay the track over the five miles from Core Creek? Has any more iron arrived?

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

CORE CREEK, *March 6, 1865.*

Captain KIMBALL,
Assistant Quartermaster, New Berne:

Send up to Captain Loud, of the escort, three days' rations of forage for 105 horses. Let me know if the steamers and flats are ready for use, and whether you can ship on them rations for the command. I will telegraph again whether I wish them to start, but want everything ready.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

CORE CREEK, *March 6, 1865.*

Col. J. W. BARRIGER,
Commissary of Subsistence, New Berne:

How long do you stay, and shall I see you? Arrangements should be made to supply all our force here, including the division of Twenty-third Corps, through the depot commissary of subsistence at New Berne, to simplify matters. General Schofield expects to join me at Kinston in a few days, marching across the country.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

CORE CREEK, *March 6, 1865.*

Capt. A. C. RHIND,
Commanding U. S. Steamer Agawam:

I expect within two days to move some steamers with flats in tow up the Neuse to Kinston, if I shall be in possession there; otherwise to such point on the river near there as I may reach. I have one army gun-boat at New Berne to convoy them. I understood from Captain Truxtun that your vessels drew too much water to go up the river, and therefore supposed it would be impossible for you to assist me. I expect to learn definitely whether the ram reported at Kinston is likely to be used, before ordering the boats up. My object in moving the vessels is twofold—first, to bring up supplies; and second, to use them as a ferry or pontoon bridge, according to circumstances. If you can suggest any way in which the navy can co-operate I shall be most happy. The harbor master at New Berne can give you full particulars.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Gum Creek, March 6, 1865.

Brevet Major-General RUGER,
Commanding First Division, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: You may move your division to this point in the morning, starting at 7 o'clock. If you can possibly do so, let the men bring four days' rations with them, as it is very important to be as little dependent upon the railroad for a few days as possible. I would like to have all the rations you do not use which are now at the railroad near

you sent up to the Core Creek Station at the terminus of the road, immediately, so that wagons from General Carter's command may meet them there to-night. Please furnish a detail to load them as soon as the railroad can furnish a train. A portion of General Palmer's division is pushing forward in advance of this position to-night, and I hope to-morrow to be able to close in upon Kinston and test the question of the rebels making a stand there.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

GUM SWAMP, *March 6, 1865.*

Brigadier-General PALMER,
Commanding Division, District of Beaufort:

GENERAL: I think your wagons had better go back by way of the railroad, to get either forage or supplies as you may think best. If Claassen gets a position over Southwest Creek I shall want your division to move up to that point very early in the morning, but in that case the baggage will have to be left till the wagons come up again.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 11. HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 23D ARMY CORPS,
Near Core Creek, March 6, 1865.

The division will move for Gum Creek at 7 o'clock to-morrow morning (March 7). The command will move in the following order, viz: First, First Brigade, Colonel Orr commanding; second, Third Brigade, Colonel Thomas commanding; third, Second Brigade, Colonel McQuiston commanding. The batteries and baggage will move by the Dover road, and two regiments will be detailed from the Second Brigade to guard the batteries and baggage. The senior officer of the two regiments detailed from the Second Brigade will report to these headquarters for instructions to-morrow morning at 6 o'clock. The pickets and all safeguards will be drawn in at daylight to-morrow morning (March 7).

By command of Brig. Gen. T. H. Ruger:

J. E. CRAVENS,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 14. HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., SECOND DIV., TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Wilmington, N. C., March 6, 1865.

The circumstances connected with my assuming command of this brigade occasions embarrassment which cannot be expressed. I can only hope that the former mutual confidence which has existed may still continue, and that I may be able to reflect credit upon the gallant brigade which I have the honor to command.

ORLANDO H. MOORE,
Colonel Twenty-fifth Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Comdg. Brigade.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 5. } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF WILMINGTON, *Wilmington, N. C., March 6, 1865.*

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V. Maj. F. W. Prince, Sixteenth New York Heavy Artillery, commanding post of Fort Fisher, N. C., will, in addition to his other duties, act as provost-marshal of the post.

By command of Brig. Gen. J. R. Hawley:

E. LEWIS MOORE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WILMINGTON,
Wilmington, N. C., March 6, 1865.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. C. ABBOTT, *Commanding Post:*

SIR: The brigadier-general commanding wishes you to take immediate charge of the defenses of Wilmington, including the outpost or bridge-head just over Brunswick River, protecting the pontoon bridge. You will examine the line of Smith's Creek and Jumping Run and the ponds, &c., with a view to defense and to the picket-line which will be needed when Major-General Terry's command shall be withdrawn. You will complete the earth-work laid out for the protection of Wilmington and Weldon Railroad depots, which are to be used as Government warehouses. Upon application to Major Terry, assistant adjutant-general, &c., a detail of 200 will be furnished for that purpose. Captain McClure, of the engineers, is in immediate charge of that work and of other engineering operations about Wilmington. He will report to you as post commandant. It will be well to visit the outpost on Brunswick River soon. It consists of 200 men, under Captain Lawrence, Seventh New Hampshire. Ought to be relieved as often as once a week. You will endeavor to keep a careful report of all transient detachments of troops, requiring them to make daily field returns to you. You should be able to give the entire force in the city daily, including all prisoners, convalescents, recruits, &c., as they will be constantly presenting requisitions for rations.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. LEWIS MOORE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 6, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, U. S. Army,
Chief of Staff, Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: I inclose herewith a copy of a letter received from Brigadier-General Webster, chief of staff to General Sherman, requesting that no troops be taken from Savannah to be replaced by inferior ones.* Two brigades were at the time under orders to proceed from Savannah to Cape Fear River, in compliance with your order of February 19. I have authorized General Grover, commanding at Savannah, to retain for the present one of the brigades named, and I presume that by the time we have transportation for them something more definite than the information we now possess will be ascertained concerning the rebel force at Augusta and other future movements.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

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* See Webster to Gillmore, 2d, p. 658.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 6, 1865.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: Your instructions to put a steamer on as an express vessel to bring information from Georgetown have been received. I have no steamer here suited for the purpose but the Anna Maria, and for her I have no coal. I have not yet been able to send the remainder of the One hundred and thirty-seventh New York and the additional regiment ordered to that point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 6, 1865.

Major-General GILLMORE,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: Your instructions to have the interior passage opened to Hilton Head will be carried out as soon as possible. We are hampered here by want of coal or steamers suitable for the purpose that will burn wood.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

The quartermaster tells me that the Coit will be detained until 4 p. m. to get the regiment ordered down on board. It will not occur again.

J. P. H.,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 12.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 6, 1865.

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III. No officer or soldier will be allowed to enter any house within the limits of the district under pretense of searching for arms or property liable to confiscation without written authority from Captain Sturdevant, with the following exceptions:

First. Authority from the headquarters, signed by commanding general.

Second. Authority of the commanding officer of the post of Charleston, signed by himself.

Third. Commanders of columns moving through the country may designate, by written orders during the march, officers for this purpose.

By command of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 42.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, *Charleston, S. C., March 6, 1865.*

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II. Col. E. A. Kozlay, Fifty-fourth New York Volunteers, having reported at these headquarters, is hereby ordered to report with his command to Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig, commanding defenses of Charleston, for assignment to duty.

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By command of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS POST OF CHARLESTON,
Charleston, S. C., March 6, 1865.

Rev. JOSEPH P. THOMPSON, D. D.,
President of the American Union Commission, New York City:

REVEREND AND DEAR SIR: Mr. Mahlon T. Hewitt, of your city, has called upon me in behalf of the American Union Mission to ascertain the true condition of the people of Charleston, and to devise some method by which the suffering and want occasioned by the rebellion may be most surely alleviated. We thank you for this prompt indication that the men of the North sympathize in the afflictions of their fellow countrymen, and desire to meet them when returning to loyalty in the true spirit of a Christian brotherhood. The suffering here is great, nor is it confined to the poorer class alone. Charleston is to-day cut off from the back country by the presence of intervening armies. Families who have heretofore derived their income from country estates are now, of necessity, in want. Others whose property has been gradually absorbed into rebel bonds are penniless. The rebel currency is worthless. Thus many who have been tenderly reared are now suffering. Instances of want come daily and hourly to my notice, which I am powerless to alleviate. Major-General Gillmore, commanding this department, generously turned over most of the rice captured in the city to a committee, who are distributing it for the relief of the most necessitous. But this supply can only last for a few days at the best, and does not begin to answer our wants. We need money, provisions, clothing, and medicines and delicacies for the sick. You cannot do too much for us. Your agent, Mr. Hewitt, has, at my suggestion, invited several prominent residents of Charleston to organize as an auxiliary association to your commission, and thus insure the safe and equitable distribution of the charity which you so nobly offer. These gentlemen have accepted, and the loyal people of the North may rely upon the faithful performance of the trust. I believe that the nation will respond to the appeal which your commission makes in behalf of this great charity, and look forward hopefully to the day when the olive branch you proffer shall be planted beside hearthstones made desolate by war, and bear the golden fruitage of reconciliation and peace.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

STEWART L. WOODFORD,
Colonel 103d U. S. Colored Troops, Commanding the City.

SAVANNAH, GA., *March 6, 1865.*

[General GILLMORE:]

MY DEAR GENERAL: On my return to Savannah from the prison at Andersonville, Ga., the poor Catholics of my charge mentioned to me the awful news "that the Catholic graveyard was turned into a fortification, the ashes of the dead uplifted into a military breast-work, and that the remains of the bishops, priests, and sisters of mercy (victims of yellow fever in 1857 and 1858) had to be removed to save them from profanation." It must be in extreme military necessity when the ashes of the dead are disturbed or breast-works erected on their place of repose. Might can effect it, but does Right sanction it?

I look on you and Major-General Foster to be brave and christian generals, and I am deeply afflicted that any subordinate should, by any act of his or their anti-Catholic feeling, tarnish the dignity and honor of your names.

I feel that the spirits of the dead, whose bodies have been exhumed, command of you in justice and religion to have them replaced in their former place of rest, and the injuries done the Catholic graveyard repaired.

With every sentiment of esteem, I am, my dear general, yours, truly,

PETER WHELAN,
"Catholic Priest."

CITY POINT, VA., *March 6, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. C. SCHURZ,
Washington City:

Lieutenant-General Grant directs me to respectfully acknowledge the receipt by him of your letter of date 26th February, and to say to you in reply that, upon the completion of your present duties, you will be ordered to report to Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman, as you request. As soon as you are ready to go to Sherman, please notify these headquarters and the necessary orders will be sent you at once.

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 7, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The Richmond papers to-day contain nothing of particular interest. The following items are taken from the Whig:

THE NEWS EMBARGO.

Since the newspapers, in compliance with the request of the military authorities, have suspended the publication of war news, the people have become more eager than before for information from the localities of active operations. All sorts of rumors, favorable and otherwise, are put into circulation, amplified, contradicted, and reasserted until a perfect muddle prevails, and nobody knows whether events are progressing satisfactorily or adversely. The usual sources of information, the newspapers, are looked to in vain, and the existing uncertainty must therefore continue until the military importance of reticence has passed by or been qualified by developments. When that time arrives the press will, we presume, be promptly notified, in order that it may resume its vocation of furnishing the public with reliable information from the seats of war. In the meantime, if anything of interest transpires which can be published, we are confident that the intelligent Secretary of War will cause the news to be promptly communicated to the press.

From Columbia.

It is certain that a large portion of the beautiful city of Columbia, S. C., has been burned, but as yet we have no positive information as to the extent of the fire, or boundaries of the burned district.

The Charlotte Bulletin of the 26th ultimo says that it was rumored that the city had been garrisoned by 2,500 negro troops, and that a raid had been made on the workshops of the Greenville railroad at Helena, in Newberry District, and much property destroyed.

The Greensborough Patriot of the 2d instant says that Sherman left no forces at all in Columbia, and it understands his troops did very little damage to private property. The old capitol building was burnt, the fire originating from shells which were thrown at the new capitol, near the old building. Railroad communication is now open to Columbia, says the Patriot, and those of the citizens who fled on Sherman's approach are returning to their homes.

From the Carolinas.

The Goldsborough Journal of the 4th instant says:

"From Kinston we have the assurance that all is quiet. Not only has no advance been made by the enemy, but it is thought doubtful by outsiders if there is any large force at New Berne. At all events no apprehension is felt there, and we know our military authorities are on the alert.

"From Schofield's command, on the line of the Wilmington road, we have very little. There has been no advance in this direction during the past week." Referring to Sherman, the Journal says: "We shall not be much surprised to hear of a retrograde movement on his part; indeed, we fear he will make one."

Details of the above news are contraband. The public must be patient, with the assurance that all is going well.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Brightsville, S. C., March 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Captain Duncan has been to the railroad to-day. He burned some trestle-work and learned that the rebels themselves had broken the road below Lumberton. I send you herewith papers of the 1st and 2d, which he brought in. My left column will to-morrow move to Laurinburg, and my right to Gilopolis. My headquarters will be to-morrow night at Laurinburg.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Crooked Creek, March 7, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: Yours of this date, inclosing papers, is received. The general-in-chief will move to-morrow with this corps, and meet you at Laurinburg.

I am, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 55.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Brightsville, S. C., March 7, 1865.

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III. The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will move forward toward Laurinburg with the head of column reaching that point. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will move to Gilopolis. General Blair will send forward his mounted infantry and secure Campbell's Bridge. These headquarters will be established during to-morrow at or near Laurinburg.

IV. Corps commanders will endeavor to have collected for each division and to keep constantly on hand at least fifteen days' supply of fresh beef on the hoofs, and to have at least that amount on hand at the close of the campaign. In collecting cattle care should be taken to collect those of good size and only such as will make good beef.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 7, 1865.

Captain VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inform you that the Third and Second Divisions will be in camp at the crossing of the main Fayetteville road over Crooked Creek. The position of the other divisions I presume you know. General Logan is now selecting a camp for Second Division, and in consequence thereof—

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 7, 1865.

Captain VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: The pontoon train is up, and has gone into park. It will move to-morrow morning with this column. Laurinburg is Laurel Hill. The citizens speak of the places as one and the same.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Brightsville, S. C., March 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to receive your note per Major Woodhull. The general commanding desires me to say that General Blair reports that every house on his line of march to-day was pillaged, trunks broken open, jewelry, silver, &c., taken. An order on the subject will be issued to-morrow night. In the meantime he asks you to take sufficient measures to prevent such outrages, and be sure that the division commanders know the officers in charge of the foraging parties.

Unless these outrages are stopped an order will have to be issued discontinuing foraging entirely. I inclose you General B.'s letter on the subject, which you will please forward to General Sherman after reading. *

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Goodwin's Mills, S. C., March 7, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that I left camp near Grant's Mill at 6 this morning, and, moving by a plantation road over Naked Creek, went into camp again this p. m., on the Fayetteville stage road just beyond Goodwin's Mills, facing north and east, so as to cover the road. My headquarters are near the mill. I inclose the report of Brevet Brigadier-General Woods, commanding First Brigade, concerning the explosion that occurred near Cheraw yesterday morning.† While I lament the unfortunate affair, I cannot by any inquiry discover who was the guilty or careless party that occasioned the explosion, but I do complain against, and blame, the officer charged with the duty of destroying the ammunition at Cheraw for carelessness in exposing it in the neighborhood of trains and troops, and at a point where it was known a column would be obliged to pass.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Brightsville, S. C., March 7, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. WOODS,
Commanding First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: In case you receive no orders to the contrary from General Logan, the general commanding directs that you move forward at 7 a. m. to-morrow, on the same road on which you are encamped to Laurinburg. General Corse's division will in that case follow you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Crooked Creek, S. C., March 7, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command marched on Fayetteville road at 12 m., crossed Phill's and Heel Creeks, and camped on east side Crooked Creek at 6 p. m., having marched eleven miles. Captured two prisoners.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

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* See p. 717.

† See Woods to Wilson, p. 701.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Crooked Creek, S. C., March 7, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this division moved from camp near Phill's Creek at 9 o'clock this a. m. and marched, via neighborhood, Society Hill, and Fayetteville roads, to Crooked Creek; distance, twelve miles. The command is encamped in column by regiments on the north side of the main road, fronting east. These headquarters are in rear of the division, about 200 yards from road.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Goodwin's Mills, S. C., March 7, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the movements of my division this instant: Pursuant to instructions received from corps headquarters, I broke camp at 7 a. m. and moved my command to Goodwin's Mills, or vicinity, on Crooked Creek, via Irby's and Easterling's Mills, and the junction of the Bennettsville and Cheraw roads, making a march of ten miles, the greater portion of the route pursued being upon what the citizens designate as the old Stage road, leading direct to Springfield. I would respectfully state that my command barely escaped very serious detention by the burning of Irby's and Easterling's Mills by the Seventeenth Army Corps, the fire communicating to both bridges, and had it not been for the foragers, who were in time to extinguish partially the flames, I should not have been able to make the point designated in your order until a much later hour.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 36.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Goodwin's Mills, S. C., March 7, 1865.

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VI. The troops of this division will march at 8 a. m. to-morrow, the 8th instant, on Laurinburg, taking the old Stage road, the Second Brigade in advance, with one regiment marching abreast of the battery; the First Brigade in rear, with three regiments marching abreast of the supply and ordnance trains. Trains in same order as heretofore.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Goodwin's Mills, March 7, 1865.

Col. F. J. HURLBUT,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: This division will follow the First Division to-morrow, starting at or near 8 a. m., taking the old Stage road and passing through Springfield to Laurinburg, on the railroad. You will start in season to join us here if possible.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—If you can join the division more easily by moving forward on your road to Springfield, there will be no objection, although it seems safer to come this way, providing you are not over three or four miles away.

By order:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Beaver Dam Creek, S. C., March 7, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that my command is in camp on the east side of Beaver Dam Creek, with the mounted infantry at Bam's Bridge. Every house that we pass is pillaged, and as we are about to enter the State of North Carolina, I think the people should be treated more considerately. The only way to prevent this state of affairs is to put a stop to foraging. I have enough in my wagons to last to Goldsborough, and I suppose the rest of the army has also. I respectfully suggest that an order be issued against foraging.

Very respectfully,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Army and Department of the Tennessee:

Every house we pass is pillaged precisely as the one you spoke of in your dispatch yesterday. There is no cure except the entire cessation of foraging. The system is vicious and its results utterly deplorable. As there is no longer a necessity for it I beg that an order may be issued to prohibit it. General Sherman said that when we reached North Carolina he would pay for everything brought to us and forbid foraging. I believe it would have an excellent effect upon the country to change our policy in this respect, and consider it my duty to submit the matter to your consideration.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Brightsville, S. C., March 7, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded for the consideration of the general-in-chief. All mounted parties of foragers will be dismounted to-morrow, except one for each division.

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

Per VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Brightsville, S. C., March 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication in relation to foraging. In reply, the general directs me to say that an order will be issued on the subject to-morrow night. In the meantime he asks you to do whatever you think proper to regulate the foraging in your own command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Brightsville, S. C., March 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general wishes to know as soon as possible to-morrow whether Campbell's Bridge has been destroyed, and if so, whether or not you will need any of the pontoon bridge.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 60. HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Beaver Dam Church, March 7, 1865.

* * * * * * *

II. The movement to-morrow will be on the Fayetteville road to Campbell's Bridge. The Third Division, Brig. Gen. M. F. Force commanding, will have the advance and will move forward at 8 a. m. The Fourth Division, Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith commanding, will follow the Third Division. The First Division, Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower commanding, will follow the Fourth Division. The First Michigan Engineers will follow the Third Division with tool wagons and ambulances. Their train will follow the train of the same division. The troops will move on the right of the train. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will move forward at 7 o'clock and secure Campbell's Bridge on Lumber River. The mounted foragers of the several divisions will report

to Lieutenant-Colonel Hughes, commanding Ninth Illinois, for duty, and will start sufficiently early to reach him at 7 o'clock. He is encamped at Bam's Bridge, about three miles from camp on the main road.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 54.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Beaver Dam Church, March 7, 1865.

This command will move forward at 8 a. m. to-morrow in the advance. The First Brigade, Col. C. Fairchild commanding, will have the advance, moving troops on the right of the road. The Second Brigade, Col. G. F. Wiles commanding, will follow the First Brigade, detailing one regiment for rear guard. Artillery and trains in usual order. Mounted foragers will report to Lieutenant-Colonel Hughes, commanding Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry, three miles in the advance, at 7 a. m.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 8.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING,
ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Near Sneedsborough, N. C., March 7, 1865.

All officers and soldiers of this command are reminded that the State of North Carolina was one of the last States that passed the ordinance of secession, and that from the commencement of the war there has been in this State a strong Union party. Her action on the question of secession was undoubtedly brought about by the traitorous acts of other States, and by intrigue and dishonesty on the part of her own citizens. The act never even met the approval of the great mass of her people. It should not be assumed that the inhabitants are enemies to our Government, and it is to be hoped that every effort will be made to prevent any wanton destruction of property, or any unkind treatment of citizens.

By command of Maj. Gen. H. W. Slocum:

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pedee River, N. C., March 7, 1865—9.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel MCCLURG,
Asst. Adjt. Gen. and Chief of Staff, Fourteenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: Everything safely over the river. The pontoon is being taken up. No appearance of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES D. MORGAN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Four Miles east of Cheraw, S. C., March 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: We commenced crossing the bridge at 4 p. m. yesterday, and have kept at work all night. The rear division is now nearly up to this point. I have started the Second Division toward the railroad at Mark's Creek. The other divisions will follow and encamp in that vicinity to-night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Station 103, Rockingham and Wilmington Railroad,
March 7, 1865.

This command will march toward McFarland's Bridge, over Lumber River, to-morrow as follows: First Division at 7 a. m., Third Division at 8 a. m., Second Division at 9 a. m. General Jackson will march two brigades in advance of the trains. General Geary will detail one brigade as rear guard. One section of artillery will march with the rear guard, one battery in rear of General Jackson's advanced brigade, the balance at the head of the trains. The artillery ammunition train will march in rear of the First Division train.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY COMMAND, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS.,
Rockingham, N. C., March 7, 1865—11 a. m.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Military Division of the Mississippi:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I have just occupied this place, driving out Butler's cavalry, the rear guard of General Hardee's forces. Hardee made this place his headquarters Saturday evening. His troops commenced coming in Friday morning; the last came in Saturday night and left Monday. The Ninth Pennsylvania Cavalry and Tenth Ohio are now pursuing Butler, who has taken the road north, running through Fair Ground to Ashborough. Hardee has taken the road, so far as I can learn, through Ashborough to Greensborough. He had with him about 15,000 men with artillery. I can hear nothing from Fayetteville. I believe Hardee is marching to form a junction with Beauregard, and I think will march first to Ashborough and thence to Greensborough, or Raleigh, as the case may be, and my scouts meet no resistance yet, reported on roads leading to Fayetteville. The enemy made inquiries in this place about bridges over Haw River, and I think if he was marching on Raleigh would move as high up as Ashborough in order to avoid Cape Fear River, as he has no pontoon bridges, so far as I can learn, with him.

The enemy had three citizens under arrest for burning bridges over Lumber River. It is reported the enemy has about 800 of our prisoners of war with them who have taken the oath of allegiance to the

Confederate Government, and they are using them to work upon the roads. Four came in to my lines this morning. Our troops under Schofield, it is reported here (and I think the information reliable), were at Elizabeth, thirty-eight miles below Fayetteville, on Friday last. This alone would have driven Hardee north, unless the enemy intended to fight at Fayetteville. I will promptly advise you as to all movements of the enemy in this direction.

I am, major, very respectfully, &c.,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Cavalry, Army of Invasion.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Camp on Fayetteville Road, Thirteen Miles from Cheraw,
In the Field, March 7, 1865.

General KILPATRICK,
Commanding Cavalry, Rockingham:

GENERAL: Yours of this date, 11 a. m., is just received. I am well pleased to learn that Hardee is making well north. Though willing now to fight Joe Johnston, who commands in chief, I would prefer to work over to the new base to clear our columns of the impedimenta and make junction with Schofield, who is doubtless working up toward Goldsborough. If I can get that point secure, with both railroads down to Wilmington and New Berne, you will perceive what a base I will have. Raleigh will be easy of conquest and we can drive all Carolina north of the Roanoke, where the concentrated armies of the Confederacy will have contracted foraging ground. But of that hereafter. Now I will make for Fayetteville, and only ask you to keep up the seeming appearance of pushing after Hardee, but really keep your command well in hand, and the horses and men in the best possible order as to food and forage. To-morrow night I will send messengers with my orders for Schofield, but shall aim to reach Goldsborough. I don't want to make "Southing." Our infantry columns are doing well. I will let Davis enter Fayetteville first, and if the people will spare the bridge, I want all to be easy on the citizens, but if they burn bridges or bother us we must go the whole figure. In conversation with people evince a determination to maintain the Union, but treat all other matters as beneath a soldier's notice. Give us a whole country with a Government and leave details to the lawyers. Deal as moderately and fairly by the North Carolinians as possible, and fan the flame of discord already subsisting between them and their proud cousins of South Carolina. There never was much love between them. Touch upon the chivalry of running away, always leaving their families for us to feed and protect, and then on purpose accusing us of all sorts of rudeness. I expect to reach Fayetteville by Saturday, and will determine as quick as possible what is next for you, but I don't see as you can do better than hold on that flank. There is a body of infantry and cavalry left down in the pocket about Florence that might be caught, but it won't pay to chase them—horse flesh is too precious. Keep your horses in the best order for the day when we must have a big fight—not, however, on this turn.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: There are several thousand men here belonging to General Sherman's army that ought to join him in North Carolina as soon as possible. If you have any steamers that you can spare to aid in transporting them, I would like them to be sent here, as all my seagoing steamers are now engaged in carrying troops to Wilmington.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major General of Volunteers.

P. S.—If you can spare me a cargo of steamer's coal it would greatly facilitate the moving of the troops. I am borrowing coal from the navy, but they have very little.

Q. A. GILLMORE.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., March 7, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States, City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: The troops under General Cox have reached Southwest Creek, three miles this side of Kinston, to-day. They find the enemy in considerable force behind the creek. Hoke's command is said to be there; whether any other troops, is not ascertained. I arrived here to-day; I will go to the front to-morrow. The repair of the railroad is now being pushed forward as rapidly as possible. Some iron arrived from the North this evening, and no doubt it will now come as fast as it can be put down. The troops are several miles in advance of the present terminus of the road, and I think will be able to keep ahead of it. If Hoke's command alone is in our front, he cannot detain us long. If a greater force, I may have to wait till General Couch arrives. But I shall make the attempt to take Kinston at once unless satisfied that it cannot be done. Palmer's delay is unfortunate, since it has given the enemy time to concentrate, and has kept the railroad workmen idle some time longer than necessary. Since Cox arrived he has pushed matters with all possible vigor, and I will do all I can to make up lost time. Colonel Wright thinks he can repair the road to Goldsborough by the 20th, if we are able to clear the way. I will write more fully as soon as I develop the real condition of affairs in front.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

MOREHEAD CITY, *March 7, 1865.*

Major-General COX:

I have just arrived. Will go to New Berne to-day. Couch marched yesterday. He will have canvas pontoon bridge here in a day or two. I have your letter of the 4th. All right.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Gum Swamp, March 7, 1865.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch announcing your arrival at Morehead. My advance was last night at Wise's Forks, four miles above here, and five miles from Kinston. Palmer's and Carter's divisions camped here, and Ruger at Core Creek. Palmer moved early this morning to occupy the various road crossings of Southwest Creek, three miles from Kinston, the last point the enemy can make a stand at outside of the works at the bridge. Carter moves up to Wise's Forks to support Palmer as soon as he issues rations, which arrived this morning, and Ruger moves up to this point to-day. The cavalry are on my left covering the Trent road and feeling well out in the direction of Kenansville. Major Dow, of my staff, with a troop of cavalry is reconnoitering the roads leading to Neuse River, with a view of determining at what points it would be practicable to reach the river for the purpose of crossing or receiving supplies. I have this morning received the information from New Berne that the obstructions in the river are sufficiently removed to permit the passage of boats. My lines to-night will practically invest the bridge-head at Kinston by occupying the line of Southwest Creek, my right being within reaching distance of the river. A deserter who came in last night reports that several trains loaded with re-enforcements arrived at Kinston two days ago. He thinks a division arrived, but his information, beyond the fact of the trains arriving, is vague. I had purposed ordering the boats up the river to-morrow, but deem it prudent to try to learn the truth of this report first, as the river is very narrow and the current swift, and a small force of the enemy with a battery could stop, if not destroy, the boats from points on the other bank. I shall be to-day ten miles beyond the railroad terminus with my troops, being seven miles here from the point reached by the construction corps last night. Most of the troops have three days' rations from this morning. The distance is fully as great as it is practicable to supply ourselves with our few wagons, but as I found the rails remaining by the roadside five miles farther than I expected, I hope Colonel Wright will speedily lessen the distance between us and the railroad terminus. I had intended moving my headquarters this p. m. to Wise's Forks, but will leave them here till I hear from you again. If you notify me by telegraph when you may purpose coming up I will have horses at the end of the railroad.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 7, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
New Berne:

The advance of both Palmer's and Carter's columns find the enemy in position with artillery at both the Dover road and railroad crossings of Southwest Creek, three miles from Kinston. I am developing their force and the nature of the ground, letting one division operate on each road, and sending a regiment over to the Neuse road crossing

still farther to the right. My written dispatch will throw some light on the topography. General Palmer has reliable intelligence that General Hoke was in person at this point yesterday, as our advance drove back their skirmishers. Several accounts corroborate the report of considerable re-enforcements arriving at Kinston.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

NEW BERNE, *March 7, 1865.*

Major-General COX:

I will run up and see you to-morrow if you are within reach, but do not let it interfere with any movements you intend to make. Please inform me of the situation and prospects. I find the boats have not gone up the river, and, from what you say of the roads, I infer you will have to wait for the repair of the railroad.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, *March 7, 1865.*

Major-General COX,
Gum Swamp:

I have received your letter of to-day and also your later dispatch by telegraph. I have no doubt Hoke's command is in your front. Of course it will have to be disposed of before any attempt is made to cross the river. I will run up early in the morning to see you. Three or four horses will be sufficient.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

GUM SWAMP, *March 7, 1865.*

Col. W. W. WRIGHT,
Chief Engineer, &c., New Berne:

Of course I cannot ask you to retard the work so much as you say it would to try to use the railroad bed for wagons. I will do the best I can, having stores left at Core Creek Station until you reach Rouse's Station. General Schofield will be in town to-day. Please see him and explain matters fully.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

GUM SWAMP, *March 7, 1865.*

Capt. A. S. KIMBALL,
Assistant Quartermaster, New Berne:

Your dispatch received. No rations need be loaded in the boats till I send further orders. I am making reconnaissances to-day and advancing my position. What intrenching tools have you?

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

GUM SWAMP, *March 7, 1865.*

Mr. VAN DYNE,
Railroad Superintendent, New Berne:

Whatever supplies or forage are now at our camp of day before yesterday I want moved to the Core Creek Station above the bridge as soon as possible. I have not teams enough to bring them from the former position, as it is several miles farther by road.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Gum Swamp, March 7, 1865.

Capt. A. C. RHIND, U. S. Navy:

Your dispatch in regard to the removal of obstructions received. I am to-day advancing my lines within three miles of Kinston and making reconnaissances of the approaches to the river to determine at what point boats can best reach me. A deserter came in last night, reporting heavy re-enforcements arriving at Kinston the day before. If this prove true, it may make it imprudent to send boats up the river immediately, but I hope to get more definite knowledge to-day, and will inform you.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 7, 1865—2.30 p. m.*

[General J. D. COX:]

GENERAL: You have probably heard that the enemy have one or two guns in position at the railroad crossing of Southwest Creek. General Harland sends me word that he is trying to get around them. General Hoke, Colonel Whitford, Colonel Starr, and Colonel Beard were all here yesterday. This is positive, as they conversed with people here who know them. What forces are now at Kinston we can only guess at. It is estimated by country people as high as 15,000. Major Clarkson, of the Twelfth [New York] Cavalry, is here, having come across from the Trent road. The line of Southwest Creek is apparently to be defended by the rebels. I have sent 300 infantry, a section of artillery, and a company of cavalry to Jackson's Mill to find out what is there. Colonel Claassen found the enemy's skirmishers here yesterday, and it was during the skirmishing that Hoke was here.

Very respectfully, yours,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—I send the map, which is, I think, perfectly correct.

I. N. P.

WILMINGTON, *March 7, 1865—8 p. m.*
(Received 11th.)

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

General Schofield is at New Berne. Cox, with his own division and Meagher's and General Heintzelman's troops, is on the way from New

Berne to Goldsborough, and is probably now near Kinston. General D. N. Couch, with his own and McLean's division, left here yesterday to join Cox, taking the shore road. My troops are at this place. General Schofield has directed the railroad from here to Goldsborough to be repaired, but the construction party not yet arrived. I am to advance toward Goldsborough as fast as repairs are effected.

TERRY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL CORPS, DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, N. C., March 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: Mr. Richardson arrived here this afternoon from Whiteville, which place he left this morning. He reports that on the 28th ultimo, or 1st instant, General Sherman was at Cheraw; that a portion of Hardee's force was north and east of that place, and the remainder of it south and west, Sherman being between; that the portion of the enemy on the right bank of the river marched by Darlington to the Pedee railroad bridge, and thence northward, and that on the 5th Sherman was at Bennettsville. I think it must be that the whole of Hardee's force was on the right bank, and that it was Beauregard who was on the left. I questioned Mr. Richardson with reference to this, and he was by no means certain that such was not the case. All the rolling-stock of the Wilmington and Manchester road has been carried to the west of Sumter, and efforts to repair the Wateree bridge are now being made, so that it may be carried farther south. Mr. Richardson brings no other information.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, March 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: A regiment from Hallowell's brigade was ordered to go to Hilton Head on the Coit's last trip. I am informed that the regiment arrived at the wharf about half an hour after the steamer had left. They leave to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
City of Charleston, S. C., March 7, 1865.

Lieut. L. B. PERRY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I am informed that the colored troops encamped near the intrenchments are continually committing depredations upon the

property of the citizens living near there. With the troops under my command at present I am powerless to prevent these acts, and would, therefore, respectfully request that the commanding officer of those troops be directed to keep them within the limits of their regimental camps, as previously requested by me.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

STEWART L. WOODFORD,
Colonel 103d U. S. Colored Troops, Commanding Post.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 43. } HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, *Charleston, S. C., March 7, 1865.*

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IV. The battalion of the Third Rhode Island Artillery, now in this city, will immediately report to Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig, commanding Defenses of Charleston, for assignment to duty.

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By command of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 7, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. GROVER,
Comdg. Dist. of Savannah, Dept. of the South, Savannah, Ga.:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to state that the two brigades of your command ordered to go north, as per letter from these headquarters February 28, be prepared to leave as soon as possible. Transportation will be sent without delay. The major-general commanding suggests that you request General Easton, chief quartermaster of General Sherman's army, to supply you with as much transportation as he can for your troops to this place for transshipment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Laurel Hill, N. C., March 8, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: General Blair was crossing the Lumber River at Campbell's Bridge when my aide, Captain Gilbreth, left him this afternoon. He feared the river would rise, and was, therefore, pushing his whole command across to-night. General Logan has three divisions here, and one (Corse's) three miles back, at Springfield. The latter is reported well closed up. Between Springfield and this place the road is quite bad, but will be easily corduroyed in the morning. Gilchrist's Bridge is burned. General Logan sent his advance and pioneers

thither this afternoon to be ready to go to work in the morning and repair it. The river is not wide, there being only one trestle to the bridge.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 56.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Laurel Hill, N. C., March 8, 1865.

I. The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will move to-morrow, crossing Lumber River at Gilchrist's Bridge. One division will move thence, by the right-hand road, to Randalsville. The other three divisions, moving on the direct road, will cross Raft Swamp with at least one division. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will move from Campbell's Bridge, by both routes—two divisions by the lower, the other by the road via Melrose, the head of both columns reaching the cross-road beyond Raft Swamp if possible. The bridge train will follow the main column of the Fifteenth Army Corps. These headquarters will follow the leading division of the Fifteenth Army Corps, and be established at Randalsville.

II. Hereafter but one mounted foraging party, to consist of sixty men with the proper number of commissioned officers, will be allowed for each division. The division commanders will be careful to select reliable officers for the command of these parties, who shall be held strictly accountable for the conduct of their men. Whenever it may be necessary to send a party from the main body, a commissioned officer will be sent in charge, but in no case will it be allowed to go in advance of the infantry advance guard of the leading division, or more than five miles from either flank of the column. All surplus animals will be disposed of by the corps quartermasters for the benefit of the artillery, bridge train, &c. Foraging for the artillery trains, including the pontoons and the different headquarters, will continue as at present.

III. If not already done, there will be organized for each division a provost guard, to consist of as many picked and resolute men as the division commanders may deem sufficient. On the march the guard of the leading division will march with the advance guard, and establish guards at every house on the line of march, which will be relieved by the guard of each succeeding division as it comes up.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Laurel Hill, N. C., March 8, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inform you for the information of the commanding general that staff officers from the rear of Generals Smith's and Woods' trains report the roads almost impassable and the trains of both divisions terribly stretched out and miring badly. The rear

of General Woods' train is reported as about one mile and a half this side of Springfield with about seventy wagons on the road.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Laurel Hill, N. C., March 8, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that I left my camp near Goodwin's Mills at 6 this a. m., and marching along the old Stage road, via Springfield, reached Laurel Hill with my head of column about 3 p. m., making a distance of some thirteen miles over very hard roads, and encamped at the cross-roads at this place, facing my division northeast. My headquarters are near department headquarters. There are no casualties in my division to-day. The roads have become so heavy on account of the rains, which, added to the darkness of the night, obliges me to encamp my ordnance train and one brigade back on the road about two miles from this point.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Jordan's Creek, N. C., March 8, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command marched on the Fayetteville road to-day, crossing the State line one mile from camp, crossing Joe's Creek and Little Pedee River, and reaching Laurel Hill at 12 m. Crossed Jordan's Creek and camped on east side, having marched fifteen miles. Captured three prisoners. Sent two regiments forward to Lumber River.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Springfield, S. C., March 8, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the movements of my division to-day, and the reasons for my failing to reach the point designated in your orders. I broke camp at 8 a. m., moving in rear of the First Division of this corps, upon the old Stage road to this point, ten miles distant. It was about 10 a. m. before the rear of General Woods' train left its park, and my movements have been necessarily very slow on account of the road being rendered almost impassable by the trains of the First Division, and the heavy rain which has been falling the entire day. Upon arriving at Springfield with my head of column at 5 p. m., I found the bridge across Gum Swamp had been rendered impassable by the troops just crossed,

and requiring some two hours' labor before I could pass my trains, and also that my column was considerably extended, with every prospect that the trains would not all be up to this point before 10 p. m. Under these circumstances I thought it advisable to place my command in bivouac here, which I have done, selecting a defensible position, believing that it would meet with your approval. My men have placed three miles of corduroy during the march of this instant. Major Hoover, aide-de-camp to the major-general commanding corps, is here and will remain with me over night, as he thinks it almost impossible to ride over the road again after dark.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 37.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Springfield, N. C., March 8, 1865.

I. The troops composing this division will march at 6 a. m. to-morrow, the 9th instant, on direct road to Laurel Hill. The Third Brigade in advance, with two regiments abreast of battery and train. First Brigade in the center marching abreast of ordnance and supply trains. Second Brigade in rear, with one regiment moving to the right of trains. Trains as heretofore. Pioneer corps will move out upon the road at 6 sharp, repairing roads as it advances.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Gilopolis, N. C., March 8, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that one division of my command is in camp at this point. The road has become so bad that the other divisions will be obliged to encamp within about three miles of here. The entire road has to be corduroyed. They will move forward at daylight in the morning. The bridge on Lumber River was saved by dashing on the enemy's cavalry. There is water on each side of the bridge and it will be necessary to bridge it in the morning should the river rise much to-night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Laurel Hill, N. C., March 8, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: As General Sherman has expressed the wish that the Left Wing should occupy Fayetteville first, the general requests that you do not send forward to occupy the city with your mounted infantry in advance of General Slocum's column.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 61. } *Gilopolis, N. C., March 8, 1865.*

The movement to-morrow will be to Raft Swamp. The Third Division will move forward at 8 a. m., on the lower Fayetteville road. The Fourth Division will move from its present camp at daylight and on reaching this point will take the upper Fayetteville road, encamping to-night at the cross-roads beyond Raft Swamp. The First Division will follow the Fourth Division to this point, where it will take the lower road and follow the Third Division. The First Michigan Engineers will follow the Fourth Division. Corps headquarters will move on the lower road. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will move forward at 7.30 a. m.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Love's Bridge, S. C., March 8, 1865—4.30 p. m.

Major-General SHERMAN, *General-in-Chief:*

GENERAL: General Carlin's division of Fourteenth Corps arrived at this point (Love's or Blue's Bridge) at 3 p. m. to-day, driving a small squad of rebel cavalry. They found the bridge in good repair, a few planks only being burned. Carlin's division crossed Lumber River and are in camp. The other two divisions of the corps are a few miles in rear. I expect to reach Fayetteville on Saturday. We captured a citizen to-day who left Fayetteville yesterday. He reports a large force at that place; says General Bragg was there and General Johnston hourly expected; says they have earth-works on the plank road near the arsenal. We also captured a cavalryman at this point bearing dispatches from General Butler to Colonel Rutledge, a copy of which I herewith inclose. I have heard nothing direct from Kilpatrick since we started, but I am informed that he was at Rockingham to-day. We took a road leaving Rockingham on our left. We have found the roads good, but supplies very scarce. I think Williams has McFarland's Bridge, but I shall direct him to write to you in full as to his own operations. If he has secured that bridge both corps will encamp to-morrow night near Rockfish Creek.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Bostick's Mills, March 8, 1865—8 a. m.

Colonel RUTLEDGE, *Commanding Brigade:*

COLONEL: I wish you to halt where you are until I join you, which I expect to do to-night. General Hampton is across the Pedee with Wheeler and 500 men for our command. I presume they will also move toward Fayetteville or down the Pedee, as the enemy may move. Send the dispatch to Colonel Childs on to Fayetteville, and inquire if anything has been heard of Robertson's brigade, which should be there by this time.

Respectfully, &c.,

M. C. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Ten Miles from the Crossing, March 8, 1865—Daylight.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing, Army of Georgia:

GENERAL: Baird is moving out from his camp at this place. Morgan got across the river last night at 9 o'clock, and will march from that place at daylight. We will make a long march to-day if all things prosper as expected.

Yours, &c.,

JEF. C. DAVIS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, S. C., March 8, 1865—12.30 p. m.

General DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that the advance is within five miles of Love's Bridge. He wishes you to caution the commander of your rear division to keep well closed up, as we have just captured a dispatch from General Butler, showing his headquarters to be at Bostick's Mills and also that Hampton and Wheeler have crossed the Pedee. He does not know where Kilpatrick is.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Twenty-five Miles northeast of Pedee Crossing, N. C., March 8, 1865—7 p. m.

Lieut. Col. A. C. MCCLURG,
Asst. Adjt. Gen. and Chief of Staff, Fourteenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: My command has gone into camp at this point in accordance with directions from corps commander, making a march to-day of twenty-five miles. Trains are coming in finely.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES D. MORGAN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Love's Bridge, S. C., March 8, 1865—4.30 p. m.

Brevet Major-General WILLIAMS,
Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that he wishes to know to-night whether you have got possession of McFarland's Bridge, and also the location of your corps. He wishes you to send the inclosed dispatch to General Sherman,* wherever he may be, by an intelligent man, and also to inform him yourself of your move-

* See 4.30 p. m., p. 731.

ments and location to-day. He directs that you shall not push forward farther to-morrow than Rockfish Creek, encamping between that creek and Nicholson's Creek.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Six Miles from McFarland's Bridge, March 8, 1865.

Brigadier-General JACKSON,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you send a brigade forward at daylight to repair the roads between this point and the bridge, detailing Captain Gavitt to superintend the work. The remainder of your command will move forward as the road is repaired. He further directs you to collect all the axes in your command, and send them forward with your advanced brigade.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 22.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, N. C., March 8, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow at 6.30 a. m. Order of brigades: First, Second, and Third.

* * * * * * *

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary:

W. T. FORBES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Six Miles from McFarland's Bridge, March 8, 1865.

Brigadier-General WARD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to inform you that this command will move to-morrow to McFarland's Bridge, and desires that you move your command at 6 o'clock in the morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GUM SWAMP, *March 8, 1865.*

Mr. H. K. CLARKE,
Operator:

The dispatch you sent up last night by mistake of one of my staff was not delivered to me till this morning. See if General Schofield has left and if not telegraph him in my name, saying horses will await him at the end of the railroad track, and I will be here till he comes

up. If he has started, say the same to him when he reaches Core Creek. It is entirely impossible to get teams for the construction party—we have not enough for the most pressing necessities.

By an extra effort I think they should bring the wire to this point, and then we could more easily await the building of the railroad. Let me know if you can find any shelter near the present terminus of the wire so as to open an office there. Ordinary messages may be sent up by signal.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Gum Swamp, March 8, 1865.

Brig. Gen. S. P. CARTER,
Commanding Second Division:

Your dispatch of this morning received. The movement on the left can scarcely be more than a reconnaissance, but I would like to have you communicate with Colonel Savage and direct him to meet it. You may send a regiment toward the same flank from Wise's Forks to support the cavalry if needed, and push the cavalry picket on the British road close up to the upper Trent road, to discover what may be the real truth of the movement. These reconnoitering parties must go out boldly and learn definitely what they can. I am just going over to General Palmer's headquarters and will take yours en route on my return. General Schofield is with me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Wise's Cross-Roads, March 8, 1865.

Colonel WRIGHT, or
Mr. CHIPMAN,
Railroad Agent:

Stop the train of ammunition at Core Creek Station, for we cannot use the Biddle road.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

GUM SWAMP, *March 8, 1865.*

Brigadier-General PALMER,
Commanding, &c.:

SIR: I have allowed a Mr. Patterson to report to you on a pass given by Captain Parkinson, assistant adjutant-general, and with him a negro man, and a white man named Jones. The rule I prefer to adopt is that no citizens whatever be allowed to go through the lines unless they are our own scouts, and I would suggest that the officers at New Berne be instructed to allow none to come to the front till we are fully in possession of Kinston. I neglected to tell Major Dow to say that it will be necessary to keep the wagons going to supply the command, and that the quartermaster and commissary of subsistence departments will need to systematize the delivery of forage and rations at the dif-

ferent stations as the railroad progresses, keeping themselves fully advised as to the advance of the road. We have to send to the Core Creek Station to-day, but I hope to-morrow will enable the railroad to deliver supplies at the Biddle cross-road.

Very respectfully,

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 12.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION,
TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Near Gum Swamp, N. C., March 8, 1865.

Capt. Henry A. Hale, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers, having reported for duty at these headquarters in compliance with Special Orders, No. 19, headquarters Army of the Ohio, is hereby announced as assistant adjutant-general of this division.

T. H. RUGER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Laurel Hill, N. C., Wednesday, March 8, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER, WILMINGTON, N. C.:

We are marching on Fayetteville; will be there Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, and then will march for Goldsborough. If possible send a boat up Cape Fear River, and have word conveyed to General Schofield that I expect to meet him about Goldsborough. We are all well and have done finely. The rain makes our roads difficult, and may delay me about Fayetteville, in which case I would like to have some bread, sugar, and coffee. We have an abundance of all else. I expect to reach Goldsborough by the 20th instant.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

SMITHVILLE, N. C., *March 8, 1865.*

ADJUTANT-GENERAL OF MAJOR-GENERAL TERRY:

SIR: I have the honor to report that I have just arrived with a detachment of the Third Brigade, Second Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, on board steamship Ashland, from Savannah, Ga. Now at anchor at this place.

Very respectfully, yours,

J. P. RICHARDSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Detachment.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WILMINGTON,
Wilmington, N. C., March 8, 1865.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. C. ABBOTT,
Commanding Post:

GENERAL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you relieve Captain Lawrence, in charge of the outpost at Brunswick River, immediately, and that you report whether or not any of Captain Lawrence's

men have been captured. He further directs that you instruct the commanding officer of the guard on that side of the river to question all people who come in, and send them directly to him; or, if at night and the news is important, send them directly to General Terry. News of Sherman is wanted.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. LEWIS MOORE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HILTON HEAD, S. C., *March 8, 1865.*
(Received 1 p. m. 17th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Your letters of the 25th and 27th, and General Grant's dispatch of the 25th, are received. The only railroad I wish to open is the one between Charleston and Savannah, in order to save water transportation and establish telegraph communication. White troops are being sent to Cape Fear River as fast as transportation will allow. One brigade started three days ago; another will commence going to-day or to-morrow. I would suggest that orders be issued to stop sending men belonging to General Sherman's army here to join him. Over 6,000 are here now. I request that a couple of good steamers be sent to help transport those men to North Carolina. I do not know where Sherman is, or whether he has effected a junction with Schofield yet.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General of Volunteers.

P. S.—March 14.—I have nothing new to add. About 5,000 white troops will be detached from this department under General Grant's order of February 19. All but 1,800 of them have already gone. The balance are ready and will go in a day or two.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., March 8, 1865.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Hilton Head, S. C.:

GENERAL: The severity of the weather for the past few weeks detained vessels in the coal-shipping ports so that there was great difficulty in supplying the Potomac and James Rivers and North Carolina movements. It was supposed that you had a good supply. Your consumption appears to have increased. Whatever is possible will be done to supply you rapidly. The demands upon the ocean transports of the country are now enormous, and repeated orders have been sent to Southern ports not to delay coal and other supply vessels. The Southern ports have been nearly bare of vessels suited to our uses. Send back our ships.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General, Brevet Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 13.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT,
DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 8, 1865.

Numerous applications for the restoration of captured property are daily received at these headquarters, the persons applying producing certificates of having taken the oath of allegiance to the United States Government. So many of these cases have occurred as to lead to a suspicion that the desire to receive a horse or mule may have induced some unprincipled persons to profess loyalty, and take and subscribe to the oath, with no intention of being truly loyal citizens. The President of the United States, by his proclamation of December 8, 1863, was pleased to pardon (with certain exceptions) such persons who have been engaged in rebellion as should take and subscribe to a certain oath. It is not understood that the expression, restoration of rights of property, in the proclamation referred to, means the restoration of property. Persons engaged in rebellion lost all rights of property. By taking the oath prescribed their right to hold property is restored to them, but no claim is given them by that act to property which has already passed into the hands of the Government, either by process of law, or as a military necessity. It is, therefore, announced that citizens of the United States applying for the restoration of property taken for the use of the Government must be prepared to prove that they have remained loyal to the United States Government during the present rebellion, or that they held, at the time of the seizure, a certificate that they had already complied with the terms of the proclamation.

By command of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 44.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT,
DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 8, 1865.

I. The Thirty-third U. S. Colored Troops is hereby relieved in this district, and will immediately report to Brevet Major-General Grover, commanding U. S. forces at Savannah. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

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By command of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF SAVANNAH,
Savannah, Ga., March 8, 1865.

ASST. ADJT. GEN., HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of yesterday, ordering another brigade north, and in reply to state that the brigade is in readiness, and will embark as soon as transportation is ready. General Easton has left this district not to return, and at present we have no transportation. I would respectfully urge the importance of the arrival of the colored brigade before the bulk of the remaining brigade which is under orders embarks. Its non-arrival in time would greatly embarrass us.

C. GROVER,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 57.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Randalsville, N. C., March 9, 1865.

The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will move to-morrow and cross Rockfish Creek, and the head of column, if possible, across Little Rockfish Creek. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will move by the Fayetteville southern plank road, crossing, if possible, with the head of column, Little Rockfish Creek. A section of the pontoon train will move near the head of column of the Fifteenth Army Corps. These headquarters will follow the Fourth Division, Seventeenth Army Corps.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 9, 1865—10.05 p. m.

Captain VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inform you that the roads have been rendered almost impassable by the rain of this afternoon and evening, and that we have been unable to move the divisions as far as was contemplated. General Hazen has two brigades in camp about five miles from Lumber River, on the main road to Fayetteville, with his supply train and advance train in park about three miles back. He cannot move forward his wagons until the road is corduroyed almost the entire way. Night overtook him struggling through the swamp. General Smith is now crossing Lumber River, and General Logan is back at the river urging him across.

The First and Fourth Divisions, I presume, are in camp on the other side of Lumber River, and cannot cross till daylight. I think it will take all day to-morrow to close the corps up on the line of Randalsville. If it is found that the road via that village is better than this one, the general may send the Third, First, and Fourth Divisions by that route to Fayetteville. This road is wretched, and is becoming worse at almost every moment.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Shoe Heel Creek, N. C., March 9, 1865.

Major WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that leaving my camp at 12 m. to-day, I crossed Jordan's Creek after General John E. Smith, and continued in his rear toward Gilchrist's Bridge over low swampy roads, made much worse by the heavy rains that came on during the afternoon. At dark my head of column was at Mr. Banks' plantation, four miles from the bridge. Here I found the greater part of the Third Division train just ahead of me in the timber, with roads such as I knew would detain

them most of the night, and my own column being much stretched out over the road, I concluded to go into camp, selecting the best ground for my purpose near Shoe Heel Creek.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Laurel Hill, N. C., March 9, 1865.

Major-General HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to request you to leave two regiments in your present camp to wait until the pontoon tarin shall have come up, to act as guard for the same.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 9, 1865.

Major-General HAZEN, U. S. Army,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The pontoon train is three or four miles back on the road from this point. It was ordered forward at light this morning. Owing to the condition of the roads it is impossible to say when it can be up to and across Jordan's Creek, hence my note of this morning requesting that you would leave two regiments in your present camp to await its arrival.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Bethel Church, N. C., March 9, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command marched at 6.30 a. m. on the Fayetteville road, crossing Shoe Heel Creek and reaching Lumber River at Gilchrist's Bridge at 11.30 a. m., where halted half an hour, then crossed on pontoon bridge and moved forward to Bethel Church, near Raft Swamp, where camped, having marched fourteen miles. The trains were left along the road this evening, the roads being impassable.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Laurel Hill, N. C., March 9, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this division moved from camp near Crooked Creek at 9 a. m. yesterday, the 8th instant, and

marched, following the Second Division, to Laurel Hill; distance, thirteen miles. The roads (three miles and a half of which had to be corduroyed) were in very bad condition. One brigade (the First) is encamped parallel with the Rockingham road, its right resting upon the Fayetteville road. The other (Second) covers the Rockingham road. The artillery and trains are in rear of the First Brigade. The rear of the command arrived at camp at 3.30 o'clock this a. m. Headquarters are on the right of and near the First Brigade.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 38.

HDQRS. 4TH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Lumber Creek, N. C.,
March 9, 1865.

I. The troops will move to-morrow, the 10th instant, on the Fayetteville road, crossing Lumber Creek. The trains will concentrate near the camp of the Third Brigade. Upon moving from that point the First Brigade will have the advance, the Second Brigade the center, and the Third Brigade the rear. At daybreak General Rice will move forward with all trains parked in the vicinity of his command, and will put his whole force at work to hurry them forward to the mill. Colonel Adams will operate with General Rice's brigade. Colonel Hurlbut will at daybreak move one regiment back to the mill, armed with axes, and repair the roads from that point toward the river, in conjunction with the pioneer corps.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Randalsville, N. C., March 9, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to inform you that there is a road leading from the cross-roads beyond Raft Swamp to Lumber bridge, which he will direct Giles Smith's division to move on. There is also a road from Donderach to the same point, but it is not as good as the other.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 62.

HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Raft Swamp, N. C., March 9, 1865.

The movement to-morrow will be to Rockfish Creek. The Third Division will move forward at 8 a. m.; the First Division will move forward at daylight, following the route of the Third Division; the Fourth Division will move forward at 7 o'clock, taking the first good cross-road striking across the lower road. The First Michigan Engineers will follow the Fourth Division. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will move forward at 7.30 a. m.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Raft Swamp, N. C., March 9, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding instructs me to direct you to move forward on the direct Fayetteville road at 8 a. m. to-morrow. He wishes that, if you can obtain harness, you put eight mules on your ordnance train.

Very respectfully,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 56. } *Lumberton Cross-Roads, N. C., March 9, 1865.*

This command will move at 8 a. m. to-morrow. The First Brigade, Col. C. Fairchild commanding, will have the advance, moving troops on the right of the road. The Second Brigade, Col. G. F. Wiles commanding, will follow the First Brigade, detailing one regiment for rear guard. Artillery and trains in usual order.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Twenty-Mile Post, March 9, 1865—9 p. m.

Captain DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report, for the information of the general commanding, that Carlin's division is going into camp at this place; Morgan's, two miles and a half in rear. Prisoners report Hardee moving on a road to our left for Fayetteville. He is force-marching, and has probably passed to our front. I have no report from Kilpatrick to-day. The rain has made the roads very bad.

Yours, &c.,

JEF. C. DAVIS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 9, 1865—9 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel MCCLURG,
Chief of Staff, Fourteenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: The excessive rains have destroyed what little of the road was left, and it will be with the greatest difficulty to get the trains into park before daylight. From present indications the whole road will have to be corduroyed. Every effort will be made to overcome the difficulty.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES D. MORGAN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near McFarland's Bridge, N. C., March 9, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: In compliance with directions from Major-General Slocum, I have the honor to report that I reached McFarland's Bridge last night. I found the bridge badly destroyed. It will take me all day to-day to repair it, and the road on this side, which for three miles is bad. I shall make every effort to get my corps across the river to-day. We are very short of tools for bridge-building. The bridge was burned three days ago.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Love's Bridge, S. C., March 9, 1865.

Brevet Major-General WILLIAMS,
Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that he will push on with this column to-day as far as Rockfish Creek, and perhaps a short distance beyond. There is a large cavalry force of the enemy in this vicinity, near Solemn Grove. General Slocum directs that when you get across the river you move on without further orders. He wishes you to report to him to-night your progress. The pontoon train has been ordered to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Buffalo Creek, N. C., March 9, 1865.

Capt. R. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Left Wing:

CAPTAIN: We completed the bridge across the Lumber Creek at 3.30 p. m. and have been crossing troops since. We had a bridge to make across a creek west. The road on both sides we were obliged to corduroy. The road so far this side of Lumber Creek is of the worst character. I shall get over all I can to-night and move at daylight in the morning. The heavy rains are delaying everything; there is scarcely a foot of road passable. Major Nichols, of General Sherman's staff, was here this afternoon. The Fifteenth Corps was to encamp to-night at Randalsville Post-Office. I will make all progress I can to-morrow and report in the evening. Please let me know by bearer your probable headquarters to-morrow night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Buffalo Creek, N. C., March 9, 1865.

This command will move to-morrow toward Fayetteville, N. C., as follows: First Division will march at 6 o'clock in the morning on the Fayetteville road, unencumbered. General Jackson will use two brigades to corduroy the road, holding the other as an advance guard. Every point of the road liable to give way will be thoroughly put in order for passage of the trains. General Ward will cover the trains of the First and Third Divisions, moving out as soon as the road is made practicable. General Geary will move with his own train, in the rear, with one brigade as a rear guard. The pontoon train will be moved to the front of the leading division train as soon as practicable. Each division commander will use all possible means to bring forward the trains under his charge. The artillery and its train, and the corps supply train, will move in the same order as to-day. The tool wagons of each division will march at the head of the brigade to which they belong.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
New Berne, March 9, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States, City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: Yesterday the enemy assumed the offensive; recrossed Southwest Creek some distance to the left of General Cox's position, and drove back a brigade which was reconnoitering for a crossing of the creek, but did not succeed in disturbing the main line. The enemy maintained his ground on this side of the creek and is now intrenching in Cox's immediate front. The loss was not very large on either side. Hoke has been re-enforced by troops from Johnston's army, one division probably, and I think more are expected. We can make no further progress until General Couch arrives, which should be within two or three days. Meanwhile Colonel Wright will have all he can do to complete the road to where the troops now are. I inclose a letter just received from General Terry giving the latest information of General Sherman.* Mr. Richardson is a very reliable man, and derived his information from a source he fully credits. I fear General Sherman is finding very bad roads. I sent to-day a dispatch in cipher, to be forwarded from Wilmington, giving him the situation here, and stating that I did not think it at all certain that I would be able to get Goldsborough before he arrives. My belief is that all of Johnston's force will be concentrated here, now that Sherman has turned toward the coast. In that case I will hardly be able to do more than hold my own with my present force. I cannot reduce Terry's command unless I give up the idea of opening the road from Wilmington—at least, until I know where General Sherman is going. If he moves for Goldsborough, Hardee, who appears to have been left in rear, will have nothing better to do than to interfere with Terry's operations. One steamer load of troops have arrived from Savannah, but I have not learned what others may be expected, nor when. These detachments do not amount to much. Palmer's command, including the fragments brought here by Meagher, are little better than militia. I think more troops could be

* See Terry to Schofield, March 7, p. 726.

used here to advantage if, in view of your general plan, they are not more needed elsewhere. As soon as Couch gets up I will test the question as to what can be done. It is raining almost constantly and the country is nearly covered with water. Fortunately, the effect is not so bad here as in a clay soil, but it makes some of the swamps and streams impassable.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

———— ————,
Major-General.

P. S.—Major-General Schofield left for the front this morning without signing the above, and has since directed me to forward it with this explanation.

Very respectfully,

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., March 13, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the Secretary of War.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NEW BERNE, *March 9, 1865.*

Major-General SHERMAN:

The enemy has checked our advance at Southwest Creek, this side of Kinston. A portion of Johnston's force is here, and I presume the rest will be concentrated in my front, now that you are understood to have turned toward the coast. This makes it probable that I will not be able to take Goldsborough or even Kinston before you come up. I will work as far forward as I can and put the railroad in order as far as I go.

SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 9, 1865.*

Lieutenant-Colonel CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Wilmington:

Move your office to this place without delay.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 9, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. L. C. EASTON,
Quartermaster, Morehead City:

Will you now assume the direction of all quartermaster's business on this line? If so, I will leave my chief quartermaster at Wilmington, where he now is.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

MOREHEAD CITY, N. C., *March 9, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

I stopped in at Wilmington on my way here and conferred with General Dodge, and I would be very glad to have him left at that place to carry out my views. In fact, it is very important that he should remain there. I will attend to all matters in this vicinity. Can I depend on General Dodge remaining at Wilmington?

L. C. EASTON,
Chief Quartermaster.

MOREHEAD CITY, *March 9, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

We are at Morehead City, establishing a grand depot of supplies for all the armies operating under General Sherman, and desire that you direct 1,500 men to report to General Easton, chief quartermaster, for guards and working parties. It is important that the troops report in regiments, with their organizations complete.

L. C. EASTON,
Brigadier-General.
A. BECKWITH,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 9, 1865.*

Generals EASTON and BECKWITH,
Morehead City, N. C.:

I have received your dispatch asking for 1,500 troops for guards and working parties for the depot at Morehead. It will hardly be possible to furnish so many men at present, but I will order the commanding officer at Morehead to furnish all the men he can, and will give you all you want as soon as possible. I would, however, suggest the employment of citizens and contraband laborers, so as to lighten the demand for tooops.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

MOREHEAD CITY, N. C., *March 9, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

Your telegram received. We have employed every citizen and contraband we can get hold of, and shall continue to do so, but cannot get a sufficient number to do the work. We shall call on the troops for labor only when it is absolutely necessary to do so.

L. C. EASTON,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 9, 1865.*

Brigadier-General DODGE, *Wilmington:*

General Easton is here and will attend to all matters on this line. You will remain at Wilmington and carry out his views there.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 9, 1865.*

General EASTON,
Morehead City:

I have telegraphed General Dodge to remain at Wilmington and carry out your views there.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

MOREHEAD CITY, N. C., *March 9, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

There has just arrived in the harbor a steam-boat load of troops from Savannah. I should prefer to have these troops to any others, if you can let them remain as a part of those asked for this morning.

L. C. EASTON,
Brigadier-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 9, 1865.*

General EASTON,
Morehead City:

You may have the troops which arrive from Savannah, but I may need them here for a short time. Please have them ready to come up by rail if called for.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 9, 1865.*

COMMANDING OFFICER MOREHEAD CITY:

You will please report to Brigadier-General Easton, chief quartermaster, at Morehead, and furnish him for guards and laborers such numbers of men as he may require, to the extent of the force under your command.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 9, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. L. C. EASTON,
Morehead City:

I have not yet heard from General Sherman. It would be well to have both here and at Wilmington supplies enough to last his army for a few days, but I would not unload the bulk of the supplies until we learn what point he will strike.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, *March 9, 1865.*

Colonel MCCHESNEY,
Morehead:

Send Captain Atwill with his two companies to this place by rail. Send them this evening, if practicable.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, *March 9, 1865.*

Major-General COX,
In the Field:

I have not yet heard from General Couch, and fear he has not made the progress that was expected. I must get in communication with him as soon as possible and make arrangements to get him across Trent River without delay. I will not go to the front to-day unless you have serious work. Please keep me advised.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 9, 1865—11 a. m.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
New Berne:

No serious work along my line this morning, though the enemy have a line of works where they were yesterday and the skirmishing has been lively. They have not made any demonstration beyond my left that I have discovered, but General Palmer reported about an hour ago that some force was reported moving across his front toward the Neuse road. His position is not as near the creek as we supposed yesterday, and he does not command the crossing at the Neuse road, but only observes it. I have sent two regiments over to re-enforce him and await further reports. We are having the greatest difficulty in getting up supplies and ammunition. Will you please have Colonel Stewart, the commandant at New Berne, take precautions to have some vedettes well out on the Neuse road and to keep his command in as much readiness for any contingency as practicable. I have sent him no warning on the subject as yet.

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, *March 9, 1865—1.40 p. m.*

Major-General COX,
Wise's Forks:

I have your dispatch of 11 a. m. General Palmer telegraphed to Colonel Stewart this morning the report of the enemy's movement on the Neuse road, and added, as understood, that the enemy had put a pontoon bridge over Neuse River. Do you know anything of such a report? Colonel Stewart has sent scouts on the Neuse road. Some wagons were sent up this morning, and I will have more sent as soon as possible. I hear nothing from General Couch yet.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

MARCH 9, 1865—5.30 p. m.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
New Berne:

I do not credit the pontoon-bridge story. General Palmer expects definite information shortly and will send it to you. Our right has been threatened by demonstrations, but nothing serious has been attempted. Stovall's brigade of Hardee's troops is with Hoke, besides Whitford's brigade. The information on which the attack was made yesterday was

given by three deserting bounty jumpers. A hundred rebels are reported to be prowling somewhere between the railroad and the Neuse in our rear. I have a party in chase.

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
New Berne, March 9, 1865.

Major-General COX:

I have just seen a dispatch from General Palmer to the naval commander saying the enemy has a pontoon bridge over Neuse River eleven miles below Kinston, and asking him to send boats up to destroy it. What is the foundation for this report? How is it that General Palmer is arranging such matters with the naval officer without reference to you or me? Your cavalry can certainly learn the fact whether the enemy is on the Neuse road in a few hours at most. You are much nearer the point where the enemy is said to be crossing than this place is, and there is but a small squad of cavalry here. It would be well to have your cavalry patrol the river some miles below where you are.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 9, 1865—12 p. m.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
New Berne:

I have tried to get reliable information as to the rumored pontoon bridge. I put no faith in the story. General Palmer has been directed to get immediate and explicit information from the cavalry patrols on his flank on Neuse road and forward it to you. He telegraphed the naval officer on the first report, supposing haste to be necessary. It was an unintentional mistake on his part. Rebel skirmishers very active to-night, but no appearance of serious movement as yet.

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

MERRITT'S HOUSE, *March 9, 1865—3 p. m.*

Maj. THEODORE COX,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: A scouting party sent out by me on the road leading from McDaniel's to the upper Trent road met a force of cavalry numbering about seventy-five on the Cob road. They mounted and charged my force, which consisted of twenty men, but followed them only a short distance. One brass piece was seen in the same position it occupied yesterday. We were unable to take any prisoners.

Respectfully,

JAS. W. SAVAGE,
Twelfth New York Cavalry.

P. S.—Since writing the above a party sent down the Trent road has returned. It went to Nethercutt's Forks and returned without seeing any indications of the enemy.

JAS. W. SAVAGE.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 9, 1865.*

Col. W. W. WRIGHT,
Chief Engineer, New Berne:

Cannot your construction corps put a causeway in a bad place in the Biddle road this morning? I cannot send back for the purpose, and yet am very desirous of having that cross-road so that I can use it and save the distance.

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 9, 1865—Noon.*

Captain KIMBALL,
Assistant Quartermaster, New Berne:

Some ammunition was to have come up last night in special train. I cannot learn that it came. Two hundred and fifty thousand rounds should be at the Biddle road station for us. Please see the ordnance officer at once, and if it has not gone, send it with least possible delay. Commissary stores should also be there, so that there may be no delay whenever our teams go there, as we can hardly exist by keeping every wagon going. Watch the forage also. Answer.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Wise's Forks, March 9, 1865—6.15 a. m.

Brigadier-General PALMER,
Commanding First Division:

There is as yet no apparent change of position in the front of this wing. I am anxious to get an early report from you. Did you push a picket up the railroad, and if so how near to the creek? Also what did you send over to the Neuse road, and have you any intelligence from there? If the enemy's force is not greatly increased we can easily maintain our position. But please remember what I urged last evening as to the imperative necessity of watching and, if possible, guarding the Neuse road crossing of the creek. Let me know also if your wagons have come up and what your condition as to supplies is.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 9, 1865—8.30 a. m.*

Brigadier-General PALMER,
Commanding First Division, District of Beaufort:

GENERAL: Your note is received. I extremely regret the inconveniences of our position, but regard it our duty to maintain it till it becomes manifestly untenable. General Schofield will be up this morning again. A demonstration of some sort is now being made along this front. This makes it all the more important to watch your right. Till the wagons return you and we have no means of moving baggage, I suppose. In case of necessity we should, of course, unite all

our force at Gum Swamp again. I would prefer to run the risk of sending some force from this wing to you rather than have you move from yours, though at present a lively skirmish is going on in front. Stimulate your men to great activity and courage. I wish you had mentioned precisely what your condition is as to rations.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, &C.,
March 9, 1865—9.20 a. m.

[Major-General Cox:]

GENERAL: Pickets report again the enemy massing at some point on our right. I will find, if possible, where the point is. The First and Third Brigades of my division have rations for to-day, except one regiment, which has none; and I will send by the orderly the state of the rations in Second Brigade. We must expect either an attack on our right soon, or that the enemy will give us the "go-by" and move on our communications.

Very respectfully, yours,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
March 9, 1865—11.50 a. m.

Major-General COX,
Commanding:

The enemy are reported to be moving a force along their lines toward our left. I send this along through my division and that of General Ruger, to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 9, 1865—11 p. m.*

Brigadier-General PALMER,
Commanding First Division, &c.:

Our cavalry on my extreme left report our cavalry vedettes driven in by rebel cavalry about two miles down the Trent road. This may mean that some cavalry squad has cut through to do some mischief in our rear, or that it is a reconnaissance. Please notify by signal General Thomas' regiment, at Gum Swamp, to strengthen its pickets to its left and front (toward us), and send us word if they hear of anything. Please also have the intelligence telegraphed to the posts on the railroad and construction corps. Some of my wagons left Biddle road station at 6.30 p. m., and have come in. They heard nothing of the party of rebels reported this p. m.

J. D. COX,
Major-General,

WISE'S FORKS, *March 9, 1865—12 p. m.*

Brigadier-General PALMER:

The alarm about our cavalry on the left turns out to be baseless. Please have the signal officer pass the word down the line. I send a dispatch from General Schofield.* Please telegraph him, and inform me also what report you get from the Neuse road about the supposed pontoon bridge. You will see that an application to the naval commander should properly be made through district or department headquarters, as General S. suggests, but I am well aware that your idea was simply to save time. I think the rumor of the bridge must be unfounded, but we must now have definite and reliable information to give General S.

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 9, 1865.*

Major-General COUCH,
Comdg. Second and Third Divs., Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have heard nothing from you yet, and fear that you may have been unable to make as rapid progress as was expected. General Cox finds the enemy in pretty strong force in his front, and will be unable to make any further progress until you arrive. It is important that you make as good time as you can, but this I know you will do. I want you to cross Trent River at or near Trenton. Do not try to head the stream, as was contemplated before you started. That would carry you too far to the left under present circumstances. I think you can easily bridge the river a short distance above Trenton, but as a further security I will send some flats up to Trenton in time to meet you there if I hear from you in time.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

P. S.—If you do not hear from me again, after crossing Trent River take to the right Kinston road, keeping east of Beaver Creek, and march for Wise's Forks, which is near the railroad and about a mile this side of Southwest Creek. General Cox is now there.

CAMP, SEVEN MILES WEST OF ONSLOW AND
THIRTEEN SOUTH OF RICHLANDS,
March 9, 1865.

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

GENERAL: I arrived here this evening in good condition. The bridge over Southwest Branch having been destroyed, has given us some little trouble. I will encamp near Richlands to-morrow night, and from thence shall proceed by the shortest road as laid down on your map. One company South Carolinians has picketed around Onslow and Richlands, four of which were to-day captured by Twining. Hoke is reported as moving north via Kenansville. The heavy rain of to-night may retard my wagons somewhat.

D. N. COUCH,
Major-General.

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* See p. 748.

NEW BERNE, *March 9, 1865.*

General TERRY:

I send a dispatch in cipher for General Sherman.* Please forward it to him as early as possible. I shall probably need a division of your command here. Please have it ready to move by land or water upon short notice.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WILMINGTON,
Wilmington, N. C., March 9, 1865.

Major PRINCE,
Commanding Post, Fort Fisher:

Your whole battalion will go down to-morrow. If you have opportunity, notify garrisons of Caswell and Smithville that they will be relieved. Captain Beach will go to Caswell and Captain Sheppard to Smithville. Make your arrangements to give them what companies you choose.

J. R. HAWLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DIST., DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 9, 1865.

Brig. Gen. E. E. POTTER,
Commanding Forces:

GENERAL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that the One hundred and seventh Ohio Volunteers be ready to embark on a man of war at the Atlantic dock, this city, at 7 a. m.to-morrow, for Georgetown.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *March 10, 1865—4 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

Two telegraph operators who were in the rebel service at Wilmington up to its capture and who have arrived here, having left Wilmington on the 2d instant, state that it was officially reported at Wilmington on the night of February 21 that Sherman's advance had reached Chesterfield, S. C., on that day and that a body of his cavalry were at Camden. When these men left Schofield had not moved from Wilmington.

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War.

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*See p. 744.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 10, 1865—8.20 p. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

Schofield has been apparently slow in getting started, on account of unprecedented storms and bad weather. There has been but little time when vessels could run in over the bar, and, consequently, he was without transportation and could go no farther than men could carry rations to supply them. When he wrote, however, his wagons were arriving and he was going to start without waiting for full supplies.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 10, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The following is taken from the Richmond Examiner of to-day:

VICTORY IN NORTH CAROLINA.

One thousand five hundred prisoners captured. The following official dispatch was received yesterday, announcing a victory to our arms in North Carolina:

"Hon. JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
"Secretary of War:

"General Bragg reports that he attacked the enemy yesterday, four miles in front of Kinston, N. C., and drove him from his position. He disputed the ground obstinately, and took a new line three miles from his first. We captured three pieces of artillery and 1,500 prisoners. The number of the enemy's dead and wounded left on the field is large; ours comparatively small. The troops behaved most handsomely, and Major-Generals Hill and Hoke exhibited their accustomed zeal and gallantry.

"R. E. LEE."

Kinston, near which place the fight occurred, is situated on the direct route from Goldsborough to New Berne, and is about twenty miles east of Goldsborough and about thirty from New Berne. It is supposed that this force of the enemy was advancing from New Berne against Goldsborough for the purpose of cutting the railroad at that point. It is not probable after this repulse that the enemy will attempt to advance, and it is likely we shall next hear of them falling back upon New Berne or changing their course to some other point of the compass. This movement of the enemy was evidently designed to be co-operative with Sherman, and in this light and at this juncture it may be of great value to us in embarrassing the movements of Sherman.

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FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.

We saw last evening an officer from South Carolina. He reports that the enemy have completely devastated the country through which they have passed. They have not spared a single house along their track, and have wreaked their vengeance upon that State with a most savage and murderous spirit. They have shown no mercy to either sex, and have spared nothing on their march which could be devoured by fire and sword. We are told the people have no conception of the conduct of Sherman's army, and the widespread destruction and the infamous excesses they have committed. In another column will be found an account of Sherman's burning of Columbia, which we get from a Southern paper kindly furnished us by the same officer. We regret to learn that Colonel Aiken, of General Butler's (South Carolina) cavalry, was killed in a skirmish near ——— last Friday evening. Major Barker, assistant adjutant-general of General Hampton's staff, was wounded at the same time, but not dangerously.

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U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Davis' Bridge, March 10, 1865—11.20 a. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

GENERAL: I have reached Davis' Bridge. It is partially destroyed, but can soon be repaired. There is some water on the other side, but the bottom seems to be hard. General G. A. Smith could not find a good right-hand road, and will come up to the bridge, where he will take a good road on this side of the creek leading to the plank road. The road General Smith is moving on is pretty bad, but he is repairing it. The bridge train and my headquarters train follow General G. A. Smith, and my headquarters will be at this point to-night. It is thirteen miles from this place to Fayetteville.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Bethel Church, Twenty-six Miles from Fayetteville, March 10, 1865—2 p. m.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: Yours of 11.20 is just received. The heavy rain last night caught Hazen's train in a swamp, and he has had to corduroy five miles, and his train is not yet up. Corse is behind him just on this side of Lumber River. I will come on in the morning as fast as possible, but you may go on in the morning ready to support Slocum, who reports that he will be ready to go into Fayetteville to morrow. I have no doubt Johnston will try and get some troops to oppose, and it is well for us to anticipate his preparations, and, therefore, you may push so as to threaten the town on the southwest. Let Blair take from the plank road to the river; the two divisions of the Fifteenth on the direct road, communicating with Williams on the left, but let Slocum break into town. I will send a staff officer to him at daylight with orders to shove right in and push for the bridge. I think if the enemy fights us with a bridge to his rear he commits a mistake of which we must take immediate advantage. If any cause delays me, have preparations made at once to cross over to the east bank of Cape Fear below the town, but we will pause thereabouts till we can get some real news from Wilmington. You may send any number of messengers to convey the intelligence that we are hereabouts, all well, and bound for Goldsborough, unless necessity forces us toward Wilmington. I regret that this column has lost this day, but it seems inevitable.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Davis' Bridge, N. C., March 10, 1865—4.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

GENERAL: I have just heard from General Blair. He found his bridge destroyed, but thinks he can build another without the aid of the pontoons. The plank road is a very good one. I have crossed General G. A. Smith, who repaired the bridge over the creek at this point, as I found the road on this side too bad. He is not yet entirely

over, but will be to-night. I expected the head of General Logan's column near here, at the fork, before this. The cannonading heard to-day is reported to be on the plank road from Rockingham to Fayetteville.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

Reports from different sources say that our gun-boats have come up the Cape Fear part way to Fayetteville.

Respectfully,

O. O. H.,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Bethel Church, March 10, 1865—8 p. m.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: Yours of 4.30 p. m., from Davis' Bridge, has just reached here, and I am directed by the general-in-chief to acknowledge the receipt of same. The road via this point is so very bad that nearly the entire day has been spent in corduroying, and but little progress has been made in moving.

I am, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 58.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Davis' Bridge, N. C., March 10, 1865.

The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will move forward to-morrow on the direct road to Fayetteville, making as much distance as possible. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will push forward on Fayetteville by the Fayetteville southern plank road. Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith's division may move on the road upon which it now is until it crosses the Little Rockfish Creek. These headquarters and the bridge train will follow the Fourth Division, Seventeenth Army Corps.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

DAVIS' BRIDGE, N. C., *March 10, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Order two of your divisions, at least, this way, and make what headway you can to-day. Let General Hazen close up, and then go ahead. We will have trouble through this soil, and if you cannot reach with any portion of your main column Rockfish Creek, please send forward and have it bridged.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Antioch Church, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that I began pulling out of my camp on Shoe Heel Creek at 5 o'clock this morning; the roads, however, were such as to require almost continuous corduroying, and my advance was consequently very slow. Reaching the old Stage road I found the Fourth Division passing. I here built a substantial bridge over the stream that crossed the road at this point, so as to expedite my crossing. Following on in the rear of General John E. Smith, I moved over Lumber River (which occupied two hours), going into camp on Raft Swamp, some two miles beyond Randalsville at 8 p. m., having marched twelve miles, facing my troops south and southwest, covering the road on which I came in. My headquarters are at Antioch Church.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Raft Swamp, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command was engaged to-day in corduroying the road. The trains were moved up to west side of the swamp, the advance camping to-night six miles on the east side.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. B. HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to request you to move your division as far in the direction of Fayetteville to-morrow as you can, breaking camp at an early hour in the morning. The Fourth Division will be closed up upon your command. On reaching the intersection of your road with that from Randalsville, push on, unless another division has the road, when you will have to wait until it passes.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
McCann's Plantation, N. C., March 10, 1865—7 a. m.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the operations of this division for the 9th instant to be as follows: Moved from camp at Laurel Hill at 9

a. m., crossed Jordan's Creek (following Second Division), and moved on neighborhood roads via Leitch's Mills and Gilchrist's Bridge, crossing Lumber River at the latter point to near Randalsville. At Leitch's Mills the road, which before the rain commenced falling had been quite good, became impassable. Nearly all of the commissary train and First Brigade remained at this point all night, the men hauling out wagons with ropes, it being impossible to find ground sufficiently solid for animals to stand upon. Upon arriving at Gilchrist's Bridge, Major-General Logan ordered two or three regiments and pioneer corps to be sent to Randalsville. I immediately sent the Second Brigade, consisting of three regiments, and the corps. They bivouacked at 6.30 o'clock, within half a mile of Randalsville, without their transportation. The artillery and ordnance trains were parked between the hours of 8 p. m. and midnight on McCann's plantation, four miles from the river. A few of the forage and regimental wagons reached the same place between midnight and daylight. From the information received this morning, I think all of my trains will arrive during the a. m. Distance marched, fourteen miles, seven of which were corduroyed.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Big Raft Swamp, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the First Brigade and supply trains having arrived at about noon, I moved forward, crossing Lowry and Big Raft Swamps, and camping at 6 p. m. upon the west side of the latter wherever I could find ground sufficiently solid to hold up the wagons. Distance marched, four miles, three of which were corduroyed.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, McNeill's Plantation, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following as a report of the movements of my division the 9th instant: Pursuant to orders from corps headquarters I broke camp at Springfield at 6 a. m. and moved to Laurel Hill, traversing two separate roads—the telegraph road and a road intersecting it from Springfield. From Laurel Hill I moved in rear of the Second Division to Johnson's plantation, in which vicinity I placed my command in bivouac at 11 p. m. Owing to the heavy rain and the bad condition of the roads, rendered so by the passing of the Second Division trains, I had commenced placing my command in bivouac at McNair's plantation at 6 p. m., when, receiving imperative orders from the major-general commanding corps, through an aide, to move across Lumber River, I again drew out my command, and feeling my way through the intense darkness, continued forward with the head of

my column to Johnson's plantation, where I arrived at 9.30 p. m. At this time I received a report that the bridge across Juniper Creek had sunk, cutting off my supply and ordnance trains and two brigades infantry which could not possibly reach me before daylight. Under these circumstances I thought it expedient not to attempt to march farther, and therefore placed the advance brigade, and the trains with it, in bivouac at the last-named plantation, and the remainder of my command in camp near Juniper Creek. The labors and exposure of the men on this march were severe in the extreme, and they could not have placed less than four miles of corduroy and marched a distance of twelve miles.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. M. CORSE,
Commanding Fourth Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to request you to move your command at an early hour to-morrow morning in rear of the Second Division, well closed up on that command. You will please move as far in the direction of Fayetteville as you can.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 39.

HDQRS. 4TH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, McNeill's Plantation, N. C., March 10, 1865.

I. The movement of this division for to-morrow, the 11th instant, will be as follows: The First Brigade in advance, the Second Brigade in center, and the Third Brigade in the rear. Trains to move from Bethel Church in the same order as heretofore. In commencing the march to-morrow, the following directions will be observed in order that the command may be closed up upon arriving at Bethel Church, and at the same time no delay occasioned, viz: All trains and the battery at this point will move at 5 a. m. sharp on direct Fayetteville road through Bethel Church. At 5.30 a. m. Colonel Adams will move with his command or directly in rear of the trains to same point, and at 6 a. m. Colonel Hurlbut will move his command by same route, closing up the entire column. At 7.30 a. m., or as soon as the trains from this point shall arrive, General Rice will move from Bethel Church on Fayetteville road. At Bethel Church, the trains and battery will take the position assigned them in the column, and in such a manner as not to delay the movement. With exception of two regiments in advance, and two in rear, the troops will march by the side and to the right of battery and train, *i. e.*, from Bethel Church.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
McNeill's Plantation, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Brig. Gen. E. W. RICE,
Commanding First Brigade:

GENERAL: The ordnance and supply trains of the division have been ordered to cross to Bethel Church. As soon as they shall be well drawn out, you will follow with your brigade and its train, moving to that point and taking command of all troops and trains of the division which you may find there. You will see that the trains are closely parked and securely picketed. Besides your command there will be the Twelfth and Fiftieth Illinois Infantry Volunteers. You will probably not be able to move before 9 p. m. Please ascertain when the trains shall have passed, in order that no time may be lost. The Sixty-sixth Indiana has been ordered on from the place where they were at work, and are in camp at the church.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. M. Corse:

LOUIS H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Davis' Bridge, March 10, 1865—1.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Have just arrived at the bridge and find General Giles A. Smith across the stream with his troops, and his train will commence crossing in an hour. Just after I left General Howard to go to you, General Smith came up, and after reconnoitering the swamp half a mile from this point on cross-road, decided that it was impracticable to cross train without making a bridge several hundred feet in length, and that it would be impossible to reach the plank road to-night, and as General Hazen was a long distance in the rear, and he had the road all to himself, concluded to cross his division here. About two miles from Davis' Bridge, on the other side of the creek, there is a right-hand road that intersects plank road some three and a half or four miles from your crossing. General Smith will take this road at an early hour in the morning, and will probably swing in ahead of your other divisions. I trust this will prove satisfactory to you. It would be impossible for General Smith to get on to the plank road by the cross-road on west side of creek to-night, and by crossing at this bridge he will be able to take advance of your command to-morrow. An order has been sent to Michigan Engineers to report to you at once, as you desired.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. E. STRONG,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Rockfish Creek, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: My First and Third Divisions are in camp here. The bridge over Rockfish Creek is burned, but I shall have it rebuilt to-night.

The bridge over Little Rockfish is partly burned but can be easily repaired. I shall send forward at daylight to have it done. I shall not need the First Michigan, and will send orders for them to move with the Fourth Division.

Very respectfully,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Davis' Bridge, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: General G. A. Smith's division was entirely across with trains before 6 o'clock. The First Michigan Engineers did not arrive here until near dark, and has gone into camp near here. The general thought that as they had worked hard all day that he would not send them forward, but will do so at an early hour to-morrow morning if you need them. The general thinks that you may move General Smith's division forward to-morrow a. m. on the road on which he is now moving, beyond Little Rockfish, over which there is a bridge which needs very little repair.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 63. } *Near Rockfish Creek, N. C., March 10, 1865.*

I. Division commanders will cause a sufficient number of good cattle to be collected in the country to have fifteen days' supply of beef continually on hand.

II. The State of North Carolina is to a great extent loyal, and as such, a marked difference should be made in the manner in which we treat the people and the manner in which those of South Carolina were treated. Nothing should be taken from them except what is absolutely necessary for the use of the army, and to this end the following regulations for foraging are made and will be strictly enforced: A foraging party for each division will be organized, to consist of sixty men and the proper number of commissioned officers. Reliable officers will be selected for these parties, officers who can and will control their men, and they will be held strictly responsible for the acts of the men. The men will not be permitted to enter dwelling houses under any circumstances. They must be kept together and at all times under the eye of a commissioned officer. If it is necessary to detach a portion of the party they will be sent under charge of a commissioned officer. These parties will take nothing but what is necessary—that is, animals, food for the command, and forage for the stock. Each division and brigade headquarters, battery, and train will be allowed a sufficient number of foragers, to be regulated by division commanders, and placed in charge of a reliable non-commissioned officer, who will keep them together and subject them to the rules prescribed for the division party. Each of these foragers will be provided with a pass. Division commanders will cause all animals to be taken from persons not authorized to be mounted. All unserviceable animals will be shot, and after filling up

the batteries and train the rest will be turned over to Lieut. Col. E. M. Joel, chief quartermaster Seventeenth Army Corps, to be disposed of as the major-general commanding may direct. All led horses must be kept in their places in the column. Provost-marshals of divisions will patrol their line of march with a detachment of mounted men, and they will arrest and dismount all mounted men found away from the line of march, unless they are regularly detailed foragers with their officers and complying with this order. Where division commanders deem it necessary they may send a detachment of infantry under charge of a good officer to forage on the flank. They will not be permitted to go in advance of the column or to a greater distance than five miles to the flank. These men will not be allowed, under any circumstances, to separate or to enter houses, and the officer in charge will be held to strict accountability for their acts. Provost-marshals will arrest all men other [than] these, found away from their commands. All officers are charged with the execution of this order and will arrest any men found violating it. The inspector-general's department will see that none but persons authorized are mounted. Division commanders may retain such number of unserviceable animals as they may wish to mount their foot-sore men on.

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IV. The movement to-morrow will be to Fayetteville. Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will move forward as directed by General Howard on the road he is now on to Fayetteville, communicating with the major-general commanding when he reaches Little Rockfish Creek. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will move forward at 7 a. m. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will follow the First Division. The First Regiment Michigan Engineers, Col. J. B. Yates commanding, will follow the Fourth Division. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will move from Rockfish Factory at 7 o'clock.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Captain CADLE, Jr.,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Seventeenth Army Corps:

I have just heard from my supply train and I find that it will not be able to reach this point before 10 o'clock to-morrow morning, as the most of it, together with one brigade of troops, is still on the other side of creek, about seven miles back. Shall I take the advance to-morrow?

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. MOWER,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 57. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, N. C., March 10, 1865.

This command will move forward at 8.30 a. m. to-morrow, following the First Division. The Second Brigade, Col. G. F. Wiles command-

ing, will have the advance, moving troops on the right of the road. The First Brigade, Col. C. Fairchild commanding, will follow the Second Brigade, detailing one regiment for rear guard. Artillery and trains in usual order.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Rockfish Creek, March 10, 1865.

Maj. Gen. O. O. HOWARD:

SIR: Bummers report that they have been within two or three miles of Fayetteville. All citizens report no force there. A factory operative, who voluntarily came in, says he left there at 11 o'clock yesterday. There were only a few hundred soldiers there then. They were moving away machinery on the Coalfield or Western Railroad. The citizens told him that Hardee's army would be there to-day, but he thinks they have left for Raleigh. The Fourteenth Corps are reported on another plank road five miles to our left. I should like to go in to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GILES A. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

DAVIS' BRIDGE, N. C., *March 10, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. GILES A. SMITH:

GENERAL: Your dispatch received. General Blair has been directed to push you straight on, at least as far as Little Rockfish Creek, where the roads are very near each other. General Sherman has particularly requested that I will not push my wing into Fayetteville. You will therefore halt in the suburbs of the city. The arsenal is south of the town. General Slocum is expected to march in to-morrow. If you do not get other orders from General Blair you may push on at 6.30 a. m. and repair the bridge over the next creek (Little Rockfish). I will join you there in person.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
Rockfish Creek, March 10, 1865.

Capt. C. CADLE, Jr.,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report my command all snugly in camp on the northeast side of Rockfish Creek. If I am not ordered into Fayetteville in the morning I shall strike your road about two miles from your bridge. I can start at any hour you may direct, so as to get ahead of the column. Prisoners brought in report no enemy in Fayetteville. A factory operative who left there at 11 o'clock yesterday says there were not over 200 or 300 men there. They were expecting Hardee's troops there this morning, but he thinks they have all gone to Raleigh. There were no new works there but they were moving machinery away on the Coalfield or Western Railroad. Bummers report the Fourteenth

Corps encamped on another plank road about five miles to our left. I should like to take Fayetteville in the morning, provided Generals Blair and Hardee were willing. I do not believe there is much force there. The Fifteenth Corps are not up.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GILES A. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Rockfish Creek, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. SMITH,
Commanding Fourth Division:

GENERAL: I have referred your communication of this evening to the major-general commanding, and he directs me to say that General Sherman wishes the Left Wing to enter Fayetteville first, but if we meet any resistance we can drive them and take possession. Therefore, should the enemy oppose your movement, you may take Fayetteville if you can. I think the right wing of this corps will be before you. That, however, will not prevent your inscribing "Fayetteville" on your banners. Should you find no opposition you will halt before reaching the city and await orders. You will move on the road you are now on, communicating with us at Little Rockfish and at any other place you may think proper. The information you have coincides with what prisoners that we have taken say. I send you a duplicate of the order for to-morrow.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Raft Swamp, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: The heavy rain of last night caught the column with which I am in the swamp, which is bottomless and has to be cleared and corduroyed for miles to let the trains and artillery pass. The Seventeenth Corps is now at Rockfish Creek and will have time to repair the bridges and push into Fayetteville to-morrow, Saturday. I want you to go in first. This you can do in your own way, but General Howard will have the Seventeenth Corps and two divisions of the Fifteenth near enough to support. Do all that is possible to secure the bridge across Cape Fear, but if, as I suppose will be the case, the enemy burn it, effect a lodgment at once across and make a pontoon bridge with a brigade across intrenched. We will await there some days. Destroy nothing till I meet you, unless there be special reason that you know I will approve. I will try and be near you by sunset. Should it be that Johnston has resolved to defend Fayetteville with a large force, it is to our interest, and you can engage his attention on the north and northwest, whilst General Howard closes in to the southwest. Avoid intrenchments, but make haste to prevent the making of them. I

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* See paragraph IV, p. 761.

send you this message which may seem superfluous, but I am with troops delayed by the swamp and cannot afford to leave anything to chance. I have sent messengers and orders to Wilmington. I set much store on a lodgment east of Cape Fear River, and would advise your having the pontoons convenient. The weather is now clearing away, and will give us, I hope, some days of sunshine. Our roads here are swampy in the extreme, but yours, I hope, have proven better.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Sixteen Miles from Fayetteville, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move your command to-day to this side of Little Rockfish Creek (at the Ten Mile Post), get your divisions and trains together, and await the arrival of the Twentieth Corps. He thinks you will not get farther than that point to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 20.

HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Thirteen Miles from Fayetteville, N. C., March 10, 1865.

The advance will be resumed to-morrow as follows: General Baird (directing his quartermaster to report his trains to General Carlin) will move forward unencumbered upon the Fayetteville road at 6 a. m. General Carlin, taking charge of the transportation of the advance division, will move at 7 a. m. General Morgan, with the reserve artillery, &c., will follow General Carlin.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., 14TH ARMY CORPS,
Near Fourteen-Mile Post, N. C., March 10, 1865—7 p. m.

Captain WISEMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report my command in camp. I reached General Kilpatrick's headquarters, in accordance with instructions from corps headquarters transmitted through you, at 10 this a. m. At his urgent request I remained with him until 2 this p. m. The engagement this morning was one of considerable magnitude, resulting in the discomfiture of the rebel forces after they had occupied Kilpatrick's camp. Prisoners were taken from six different brigades, whose testimony is concurrent to the effect that the whole rebel army is straining every nerve to reach Fayetteville before our forces can do so. Prisoners captured in the charge this morning also say that two divis-

ions of their army were still in their rear. To-night I captured a prisoner who claims to belong to Rhett's division, and that it was marching on a road to our left, and he (the prisoner) thought it was less than a mile off. If this is true Kilpatrick will strike it to-night, as he is on the Chicken road, immediately on our left.

I have the honor to remain, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN G. MITCHELL,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.

P. S.—I tried to find the general's headquarters this evening, but failed to do so.

M.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Rockfish Creek, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Military Division of the Mississippi:

MAJOR: I left Buffalo Creek a mile east of Lumber Creek this morning, and after corduroying every foot of the ten miles to this point reached here at 3.30 p. m. I find this creek and overflow at least 300 feet broad, with a depth of from three to eight feet. I have the pontoon train up, and shall have a bridge ready by daylight. I have never seen so spongy and treacherous a road as to-day. If made of jelly it could not have been less firm. A dispatch from General Slocum this morning says the Fourteenth Corps expected to encamp to-night on Little Rockfish Creek. My messenger says its train was stretched out for ten miles behind the camp of last night. My train is well up. I send some newspapers. Firing was heard this morning on our left front, probably from our cavalry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Rockfish Creek, N. C., March 10, 1865.

This command will march toward Fayetteville to-morrow, as follows: Third Division, Second Division, First Division. General Ward will start at 6 a. m., and will march the troops of his division in the advance, and will repair the roads. He will send three regiments ahead to Nicholson's Creek to prepare the crossing there. General Geary will follow the Third Division, and will cover his own train and that of the Third Division. General Jackson will detail three regiments as rear guard. The tool wagons of each brigade of the Third Division will accompany their respective brigades. The artillery will have the same positions in the column as in the march of to-day. That portion of the pontoon train which is not used in the construction of the bridge at this point will march at the head of the trains of the Third Division, starting at 6 a. m. The balance of that train will follow as soon as the corps shall have passed the bridge.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 10, 1865.*
(Received 13th.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The enemy made a heavy attack upon our center and left to-day, but was decisively repulsed and with heavy loss. His dead and badly wounded men left upon the field. We also took several hundred prisoners. Our loss is small. General Couch is only twelve miles from here to-night, and will be up early in the morning. We took prisoners from Lee's and Stewart's corps. They say two corps are here, and the rest of Johnston's are coming.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

(Forwarded by General Grant to the Secretary of War 13th.)

NEW BERNE, *March 10, 1865—1.40 p. m.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

The scout on the Neuse road found it barricaded at Core Creek, but no enemy. They then crossed to the Dover road, and are pushing forward. Am I to start the boat up the Trent River before hearing from General Couch?

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

WISE'S FORKS, N. C., *March 10, 1865.*

Brigadier-General SCHOFIELD:

I want General Couch to come straight here, that he may go to Trenton in compliance with my dispatch sent yesterday. For that contingency send the boat up the river to-night, or at daylight if it cannot go in the night. Send Lieutenant Williams up here to-morrow.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
New Berne, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
At the Front:

Party sent to meet General Couch could not cross Mill Creek. Sent horses back and goes on foot with part of his command. He had several men badly injured in attempting to cross. Could not repair bridge.

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 10, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. G. W. SCHOFIELD,
New Berne:

The enemy attacked heavily on our left and center, but was repulsed with pretty heavy loss. A large part of Johnston's army is here, and

I think the rest is coming. They will probably try it again to-morrow. Couch is heard from, and is to be at Beaver Dam Creek to-night. I hope he will get up in time. We shall try to hold here until he comes, even though the enemy may get in our rear. Bring up all the troops from Morehead to New Berne, and prepare to hold that place in any event. Use the trains to bring up supplies here and troops to New Berne. All other work may be stopped for a day or two.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 10, 1865—6.40 p. m.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
At the Front:

Dispatch received. Have ordered everything up from Morehead City. Shall arrange to put all convalescents, negroes, and citizens into the works if necessary. Lieutenant Williams, from General Couch, is here.

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, March 10, 1865—7.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General SCHOFIELD:

General Couch is within a short distance of here. You need not send the boat. He will be here by daylight. All is lovely and the goose hangs high.

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 10, 1865—9 p. m.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
At the Front:

I started the boat at 4 p. m. to-day. Williams says General Couch intended to cross the Trent at or near Beaver Dam Creek. I will send him up in the morning.

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 10, 1865.*

Brevet Brigadier-General EASTON,
Chief Quartermaster Military Div. of the Mississippi, Morehead:

Major-General Schofield directs that all troops at Morehead come to this place at once, including the regiment now under your orders. Colonel McChesney will attend to their shipment.

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
New Berne, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Brig. Gen. L. C. EASTON,
Chief Quartermaster Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I have received a telegram from Major-General Schofield to the following effect: Use all railroad transportation for the purpose of sending stores to the front and for bringing troops from Morehead to New Berne. All other work may be stopped for a day or two. It was in compliance with instructions contained in this telegram that I telegraphed you this evening in regard to troops under your orders. Please spare the last possible man.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 10, 1865—6 p. m.*

Colonel MCCHESNEY, *Morehead City:*

Major-General Schofield directs that you come to this place with your whole command at once. Load the train now there and send it up to-night. The balance will come early in the morning. Report to me your effective strength.

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, New Berne, March 10, 1865.

Capt. J. J. MCLANE,
Commanding Detachment of First North Carolina Volunteers:

I am directed by the major-general commanding to place your command on board steamer General Shepley, and to send the boat on an expedition up the Trent River. You will, therefore, at once place your command on board said boat with ten days' rations. It is intended that the boat shall proceed up the river as far as Trenton, with the expectation of meeting General Couch's command there, for the purpose of furnishing means for him to cross that stream. Mr. Lowman, harbor master at this place, will accompany the expedition and superintend the running of the boat, building bridge, &c.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
New Berne, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Capt. J. J. MCLANE,
Commanding Detachment on board Steamer General Shepley:

CAPTAIN: I have just received instructions from Major-General Schofield to order the expedition up the Trent to return. General Couch is now crossing the river at a point higher up than the Shepley could go. You will therefore return without delay. Show this to Captain Lowman. It will be orders for him as well as yourself.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 10, 1865.*

Col. N. W. DAY,
Third Brig., Third Div., Nineteenth Army Corps, Morehead:

Make arrangements with General Easton or the harbor master to get your command on shore in the most feasible way. You will then come with it to this place unless otherwise ordered.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
New Berne, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Col. W. W. WRIGHT,
Chief Engineer U. S. Military Railroads:

COLONEL: I have just received a telegram from Major-General Schofield directing me to bring up all troops from Morehead, and to use all railroad transportation for that purpose and for the purpose of carrying stores to the front. He also says all other work may be stopped for a day or two. I send this for your information, not knowing whether he has given you any orders on the subject.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

NEW BERNE, *March 10, 1865—9 a. m.*

Major-General COX:

I have received your dispatch of 9.12 p. m.,* also General Palmer's of 12.50 a. m., giving the source of his information about the pontoon bridge and of the enemy's movement down the Neuse road yesterday. It does seem to me that our cavalry ought to know certainly of any actual movement of the enemy on the Neuse road, and also whether they have a pontoon bridge below the mouth of Southwest Creek. It might be well to send the main portion of your cavalry to that flank. Couch ought very soon to be in position to protect your left against any movement in force, though I have heard nothing from him. You might also put a reliable regiment or two of infantry on that road to give you certain information of the enemy's movements, and detain him until you could make dispositions to meet him or fall back, as might seem necessary.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 10, 1865—9 a. m.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
New Berne:

Nothing new this morning. The skirmishing is continuous and very like that before New Hope Church. Night alarms are frequent. The enemy shows no serious disposition to commit himself to an extended movement, and my impression is strong that he will continue substantially on the defensive. There is no pontoon bridge below Kinston. I doubt if there is one there. Deserters say that one division (Johnson's)

*Reference is probably to dispatch of 12 p. m., March 9. See p. 748.

of Hood's old command is with Hoke, and some vaguely talk of more. The wagons sent up will be very acceptable. Will Major Wherry please see the ordnance officer at New Berne and direct him to keep a non-commissioned officer at the upper railroad station, with at least 100,000 rounds of cartridges ahead all the time. He should have a tarpaulin and keep the boxes right side up. Part of that sent yesterday got wet. The led horses are still at the end of the railroad. Shall I keep them there?

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 10, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
New Berne:

My cavalry went down the Trent road yesterday to the forks, about one mile and a half this side of Trenton. Heard nothing of General Couch. No rebels on the lower Trent road, but rebel cavalry in small parties were on the upper (northern) Trent road. I have ordered them to go into Trenton to-day.

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

U. S. STEAMER AGAWAM,
New Berne, March 10, 1865—2 p. m. (Sent 4 p. m.)

Major-General COX:

An expedition under Lieutenant-Commander Thornton has started up the Neuse—the Ella May, Shrapnel, and eight armed launches and cutters. Please open communication with Captain Thornton if possible, that he may be able to operate intelligently.

A. C. RHIND,
Commander and Senior Officer.

(Same to General I. N. Palmer.)

WISE'S FORKS, *March 10, 1865.*

Captain KIMBALL,
Assistant Quartermaster, New Berne:

The gang of laborers to unload trains at end of railroad should have a thorough overseer to make them unload the cars whenever they arrive. The railroad men complain of great delays, trains being delayed all night.

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 10, 1865.*

Captain AUSTIN,
Assistant Quartermaster, Morehead City:

It is very important that the wagon train of General Ruger's division be unloaded at once. We are suffering for need of it, and cannot possibly spare fighting men from the front now. Please have it done without delay.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding District.

BRITISH ROAD RAILROAD CROSSING,
March 10, 1865—12.50 a. m.

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

A deserter who has just come in has been questioned very closely by me, and I believe the statement he makes, which is as follows: Just after the attack on our left on the morning of the 8th, a portion of Hood's old army, under D. H. Hill, arrived on the ground. Bragg is in command, and yesterday morning he addressed Hoke's division, informing them that they now had the Yankees running and they must keep them at it. This deserter crossed the river on the pontoon bridge, which is a few miles below Kinston, and he was with Hoke's division, which marched down the Neuse road yesterday some two or three miles, when they went back again. Bragg tells his men that he is going to capture this army and then go to New Berne. It is my belief that he will not have, with Hill's men, more than 15,000, but that a determined effort is to be made to defeat this force. I send this to you direct, as the signal station is at my camp. I shall send the same information to General Cox.

Very respectfully, yours,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

BRITISH ROAD RAILROAD CROSSING,
March 10, 1865—1.20 a. m.

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

While I was very much occupied yesterday I heard of the pontoon bridge over the Neuse, and I directed my adjutant-general to notify the senior naval officer at New Berne of this. I merely desired to give him information, and did not intend either to direct or advise any movement against it. In these times much has to be left to staff officers, and blunder was made here.

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION,
March 10, 1865.

General COX,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I desired to know if the Neuse road was clear from New Berne to this point on my right. I directed Colonel Stewart, at New Berne, to get this information for me by sending a small party through to me. The cavalry of his troop were sent from Fort Anderson, opposite New Berne. They report the road blockaded this side of Core Creek. If the men are not needed here they can be returned to their post. Shall I send them back?

Very respectfully, yours,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 10, 1865—5 a. m.*

Brigadier-General PALMER:

The deserters stated that some rebels crossed yesterday on a bridge they had made near the railroad. Can they not, from that point, get

between the regiment on Neuse road and you? If so, I would prefer to trust to the cavalry patrol and recall the regiment to act as a reserve. A small infantry picket, part of the way out, might support the cavalry and see that they did their duty, without the same risk.

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

MARCH 10, 1865—11.45 a. m.

Brigadier-General PALMER:

A demonstration made on my left makes it advisable to send over at least one regiment from your right. If all is quiet there send one on double-quick.

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

[MARCH 10, 1865]—12.10 m.

Brigadier-General PALMER:

The orders I have sent are that if I send word that I cannot hold here, you will make an orderly retreat to New Berne, but I think the weight of the enemy's attack is over. If he is quiet in your front I want a brigade, and want everything got well in hand to move in any direction. I need help and rely on you to send whatever you can.

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

Signal down the railroad for General Schofield not to leave the train to come to the front this morning.

MARCH 10, 1865—12.30 m.

Brigadier-General PALMER:

Hoke's division made a brisk attack on my left and is now repulsed. Signal General Schofield that he can safely come up, as the road is not now endangered. I will send back your men as soon as the pursuit is pushed farther. I have a good many prisoners.

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION,
March 10, 1865—5.10 p. m.

General J. D. COX,
Commanding, &c., Wise's Cross-Roads:

GENERAL: The three men who came through with dispatches from General Couch passed out again some hour or less since. Two of them returned about half an hour since to the camp at Gum Swamp and informed the officer in command there that they had seen a brigade of rebels passing down (I cannot discover on what road) on our left. Major Camp will furnish further information as soon as he can obtain it. This news is brought to me by the quartermaster of the Eighth Minnesota, now at Gum Swamp.

Very respectfully, yours,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 10, 1865—5.20 p. m.*

Brigadier-General PALMER:

See that you are well prepared as to ammunition, both for cannon and small-arms. If you have one day's rations send for more ammunition. It will be up by train to-night. The rebels may, and probably will, try us again to-morrow. I wish you had another hundred thousand rounds. Pay the closest attention to your picketing and push scouts forward on the railroad so that you shall know certainly if any force passes to your right during the night or in the morning; so also as to the Neuse road. Run no risk of having that regiment cut off. The force under Couch we hope to see to-morrow and the word now is to hang on with the utmost tenacity, no matter what odds is against us. We whipped them handsomely to-day, and if they attack to-morrow they must be served the same way. Let your staff see for themselves that the picket and outpost duty is well done.

Yours,

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
March 10, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding, Wise's Cross-Roads:

GENERAL: A man in Kinston, in whom I trust implicitly, has just sent a negro man to me, to inform me that a re-enforcement of about 6,000 men under General Lee (S. D., I presume) is to arrive at Kinston this afternoon or to-night, and that we must be on the lookout for them.

I am, general, very respectfully, yours,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

GUM SWAMP, *March 10, 1865—2.30 p. m.*

Colonel SAVAGE:

You must get scouts through to General Couch at speed, saying that I have been attacked to-day by Lee's corps and other troops, but have repulsed them. Still his presence at the earliest moment, and by forced marches, is very important. General Schofield is here and directs that he take the shortest and quickest route to this point without regard to his dispatch, dated last evening. This word must go through to-night if horse flesh will carry it.

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 10, 1865.*

General COUCH:

Move right for this place by the shortest route and by a forced march. Cox has been fighting heavily to-day and has repulsed the enemy so far.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 54. } HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS, DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA, *Wilmington, N. C., March 10, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

V. Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, Thirty-eighth Massachusetts, having reported at this point with a portion of the Second Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, will immediately proceed to Morehead City, and report to the commanding officer of that place. If that officer has no orders for him from the department commander Colonel Richardson will communicate with General Schofield by telegraph or special messenger without delay.

* * * * * * *

By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

CHAS. H. GRAVES,
Major, Assistant Adjutant-General, and Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 9. } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF WILMINGTON, *Wilmington, N. C., March 10, 1865.*

I. The detachment of the Sixteenth New York Heavy Artillery, now serving at this post, will proceed at once to Fort Fisher and report to Maj. F. W. Prince, commanding post, for assignment to duty. The quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

II. Capt. O. W. Beach, Sixteenth New York Heavy Artillery, is hereby assigned to the command of the post of Fort Caswell. Captain Beach will also perform the duties of provost-marshal of the post.

III. Capt. Morris F. Sheppard, Sixteenth New York Heavy Artillery, is hereby assigned to the command of the post of Smithville. Captain Sheppard will also perform the duties of provost-marshal of the post.

IV. In accordance with instructions from Major-General Schofield, commanding Department of North Carolina, the present garrisons of Fort Caswell and Smithville are hereby relieved and will report to their proper commanders immediately.

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By command of Brig. Gen. J. R. Hawley:

E. LEWIS MOORE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WILMINGTON,
Wilmington, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Capt. O. W. BEACH,
Sixteenth New York Heavy Artillery, Comdg. Fort Caswell:

SIR: You have been appointed to the command of Fort Caswell and vicinity, with the powers also of an assistant provost-marshal. The brigadier-general commanding the district wishes you to have at least 150 rifles in your command. You will keep the fort in as good condition as possible and defend it to the last. Keep the public property in good order. Permit no civilian or outsider to enter except under the strictest supervision. Agree with Captain Sheppard at Smithville and Major Prince upon a series of plain signals that shall signify the approach of the enemy, need of assistance, &c. You might use guns, rockets, &c. A telegraph line runs from Fort Fisher to Wilmington.

Captain Sheppard will not be expected to hazard the loss of his command by too prolonged a resistance against greatly superior forces, though he will hold the place, if possible. Should he plainly see that he must leave it he will take to the boats and report to you at Fort Caswell. Make your reports to headquarters; the field return daily and the tri-monthly on the 8th, 18th, and 28th of each month. Keep headquarters advised of anything new; a provost-marshal's report regularly also. You are authorized to administer the oath of allegiance, keeping a full record of each case and reporting. Receive such instructions as the officer you relieve may turn over. Report as soon as you can the condition [in] which you find affairs.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. LEWIS MOORE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WILMINGTON,
Wilmington, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Capt. M. F. SHEPPARD,
Sixteenth New York Heavy Arty., Comdg. Post at Smithville:

SIR: You have been assigned to the command of Smithville, charged also with the duty of assistant provost-marshal. Take good care of all public property. Put the place in condition for defense. Do not permit your men to occupy houses, but make them comfortable in tents. Permit no straggling, and keep your picket watchful. If troubled at all it would be a sudden dash and an attempt to surprise patrol. If you put your defenses in good order and post your artillery advantageously, you ought to be able to repulse a much larger force. I wish you to have at least 150 effective men. Agree with Captain Beach at Caswell and Major Prince at Fort Fisher, upon a series of plain signals that shall signify of the approach of the enemy, needed assistance, &c. You might use guns, rockets, &c. Telegraph line runs from Fort Fisher to Wilmington. I do not expect you to lose your command by a resistance to the last extremity. Keep all the boats in good order, and if not too heavily pressed take to them and go to Caswell, which is to be defended at all hazards. Have a talk with the naval commander near you. Secure captured, abandoned, and confiscated property. You are authorized to administer the oath, keeping full records, and reporting. Make daily field returns, sending them up as you have opportunity. Send your tri-monthly on the 8th, 18th, and 28th of each month. Keep but a moderate supply of stores of any kind on hand.

By order of Brigadier-General Hawley:

E. LEWIS MOORE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *March 10, 1865.*

Major-General GILLMORE,
Hilton Head, S. C.:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 3d instant has been submitted to the Secretary of War, and he directs me to say, in reply, that matters of trade in the Department of the South will be regulated by General Sherman's Field Orders, No. 13, January 15, 1865, and such other instructions as he may give. Treasury Department permits to individuals are to be regarded only so far as the instructions of the War

Department and of Generals Grant and Sherman allow or direct trade under them to be carried on. And the President has directed that any permit signed by himself shall be considered in the same light. In other words, trade permits of all kinds must be held subordinately to military exigencies, and in no case must be used as a means of furnishing the enemy with either funds or supplies. In regard to the kind or character of the permits required by the Treasury Department for the shipment of produce, &c., from blockaded ports, I am directed to say that that is a matter which concerns the shippers and the Treasury agents.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Savannah, Ga., March 10, 1865.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: A question having arisen as to the proper construction of Special Field Orders, No. 13, headquarters Military Division of the Mississippi, in the field, dated Savannah, Ga., January 15, 1865, (paragraph VI), it is hereby directed that until further orders said paragraph will be taken to prohibit any purchase, direct or indirect, by any other person than a U. S. Treasury agent of any cotton or any claims thereto. This construction will be enforced by the military authorities having jurisdiction.

I am, very respectfully,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.
By J. D. WEBSTER.
(In the absence of the major-general.)

[Indorsement.]

Furnish without delay an official copy of this order to post and district commanders for their information and guidance.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
No. 60. } *Hilton Head, S. C., March 10, 1865.*

I. The Thirty-fourth Regiment U. S. Colored Troops is hereby assigned to duty in the District of Florida, and will report at once to Brig. Gen. E. P. Scammon, Jacksonville, Fla. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

II. In accordance with paragraph VII, of Special Field Orders, No. 13, dated headquarters Military Division of the Mississippi, in the field, Savannah, Ga., January 15, 1865, Col. B. C. Tilghman, Third U. S. Colored Troops, is hereby appointed post commander at Jacksonville, Fla., and Maj. Henry Allen as post commander at Saint Augustine, Fla. These officers will proceed at once to enter upon the discharge of their duties.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

W. L. M. BURGER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 10, 1865.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have the honor to request instructions as to what disposition, if any, shall be made of property in this city which has been brought in by blockade-runners. It is generally in second hands, although there may be some cases where it is held for the benefit of the importers. I am endeavoring, as far as possible, to carry out the same policy with regard to cotton as was adopted in Savannah. There is, however, some rosin, turpentine, and tobacco undoubtedly brought here for shipment. No instructions having been received on the subject, I have directed it to be seized when found, stored and held, subject to further orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 10, 1865.

Brig. Gen. A. SCHIMMELFENNIG,
Commanding Defenses of Charleston:

GENERAL: The Fifty-fourth New York Volunteers will not be longer required for the defense of the Neck. The brigadier-general commanding suggests that it be so placed as to enable its commander to visit without much trouble all the different companies. The general also directs me to inform you that Col. C. H. Van Wyck's brigade will be ordered to Mount Pleasant, which will enable you to withdraw from that place the force you may have there.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 10, 1865.

Lieutenant-Colonel COOPER,
107th New York [Ohio] Volunteers:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you embark your regiment on the gun-boat Sonoma, which will come up to the dock for them. You will on arriving at Georgetown report to the commanding officer of that place for assignment to duty. No horses can be taken on board the gun-boat, and it is not thought advisable to ship any horses to that place, as there are plenty of captured animals there. If, however, you should desire to send your horses up by a transport, a written application to do so must be sent in to these headquarters certifying that all are private property.

Yours, very respectfully,

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 10, 1865.

Brig. Gen E. E. POTTER,
Commanding Brigade:

GENERAL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that the brigade commanded by Col. C. H. Van Wyck be stationed at Mount Pleasant for the present.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

WASHINGTON, *D. C., March 11, 1865—11.30 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

I have just received a letter from General Gillmore stating that he had ordered two brigades of Grover's command to Cape Fear River, but that he had transports for only one.* In the meantime General Webster protests, as chief of Sherman's staff, against sending any more troops north until you were again consulted. I do not know by what authority General Webster pretends to act in this matter for General Sherman during his absence. General Gillmore thinks that the troops can be spared, but says your decision will probably reach him by the time he can get transports for the second brigade. What shall I say?

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 11, 1865—8.30 p. m.*
(Received 10 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

If General Webster gives no better reason than his simple protest against the removal of troops north from the Department of the South, I would have the order renewed. There is no necessity for detaining one brigade until transports are ready for the whole command sent. Instruct Gillmore that if Sherman strikes the seacoast at any other point than Wilmington before the execution of this transfer of troops there they will join him wherever he may be.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WILMINGTON, N. C., *March 11, 1865.*
(Received 10 a. m. 14th.)

Maj. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

Dispatch received from General Sherman. He will be at Fayetteville on the 11th; all well. Have sent boat up Cape Fear River to communicate with him, if possible. If detained at Fayetteville on account of recent rains I shall send him supplies by boat. You will hear satisfactory news from him soon.

G. S. DODGE,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

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* See March 6, p. 709.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 28. } HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI, *In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., March 11, 1865.*

I. The Right Wing, Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard commanding, will cross Cape Fear River as soon as possible and take roads leading toward Faison's Station, on the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, but will not depart from the river until further notice.

II. The Left Wing, Maj. Gen. H. W. Slocum commanding, will hold the town of Fayetteville, and he will lay his pontoons ready to cross the river, but in the meantime will destroy all railroad property, all shops, factories, tanneries, &c., and all mills save one water-mill of sufficient capacity to grind meal for the people of Fayetteville.

III. The cavalry is charged with destroying the railroad trestles, depots, mills, and factories as far up as lower Little River, including its bridge, and will be prepared to cross to the east of Cape Fear River during Monday night.

IV. Bvt. Col. O. M. Poe is charged with the utter demolition of the arsenal building and everything pertaining to it, and Bvt. Lieut. Col. T. G. Baylor, chief ordnance officer, is charged with the destruction of all powder, and ordnance stores, including guns and small-arms, keeping the usual record. The time allowed will be Sunday and Monday.

V. All commanding officers having refugee families or negroes in charge will prepare a train with a small guard to proceed to Wilmington; after crossing South River an officer will be detailed from these headquarters to conduct them to Wilmington. A guard of 100 men of each wing composed of men entitled to discharge or escaped soldiers and officers will be deemed a sufficient guard.

VI. The army will prepare to lean toward the northeast by Tuesday next.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Little Rockfish Creek, N. C., March 11, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Army and Department of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: General Corse has just come to my headquarters from Rockfish Creek, and represents that it will be impossible for him to cross his trains without endangering his ammunition and hard bread, unless the stream is bridged, and as it is of considerable width and depth and would delay the column until late in the morning to attempt to construct a bridge, I have ordered General Corse to put in the three pontoon boats now with this column, connecting them with the shore, in order that the three divisions with their trains still on the other side of the stream may cross over as speedily as possible. I have the honor to invite your attention to the inclosed copy of my order to the commanding officer of the section of the pontoon train.*

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

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* Omitted.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Little Rockfish Creek, N. C., March 11, 1865.

[Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE:]

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of this date relative to the position the several divisions of my corps occupied last night, and in reply thereto would respectfully inform you that the First Division encamped two miles beyond Randalsville, on the Fayetteville road, with the Third Division in rear, near Randalsville. Two brigades of the Second Division, with Major-General Hazen's headquarters, moved across the creek near Bethel Church, the regiments being distributed along the road corduroying it preparatory to to-day's movement, encamping wherever night overtook them. General Hazen's supply train only succeeded in getting through the swamp beyond his old headquarters at about 8 p. m., going into park at Bethel Church. General Hazen's headquarters were moved about one mile. The Fourth Division was in camp the other side of Raft Swamp, with strong working parties out all night repairing the road through the swamp, and although General Hazen's train had pulled through, after nearly a day's work in corduroying, General Corse had to build three bridges—one sixty feet in length—besides much other work. General Woods broke camp at an early hour this morning and moved to Rockfish Creek. His road required a great deal of work, his head of column only reaching the creek at 4.30 this p. m. General Hazen moved across Rockfish Creek, and is now going into camp near my headquarters, about six miles from town, having made a march of nineteen miles. General Corse and General Smith are in camp near General Woods, on the other side of Rockfish Creek. My headquarters last night were near the advance regiments of General Hazen's command, and are to-night with that division.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

By MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Signed in temporary absence of the major-general commanding.)

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Nelson's Post-Office, N. C., March 11, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that in obedience to orders received from the major-general commanding, I left camp at daylight this morning, moving across Raft Swamp on the direct road to Fayetteville, and marched as far as Nelson's Post-Office, passing over an almost continuous swamp that required corduroying for the greater part of the route. I am all in camp now, 8 p. m.; have made but eight miles since morning. My headquarters are at the forks of the road near Nelson's Post-Office.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Rockfish Creek, N. C., March 11, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. WOODS,
Commanding First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: General Corse has been ordered to cross Rockfish Creek as soon as possible, and will break camp early in the morning, moving in the direction of Fayetteville. The general commanding requests that you follow him, well closed up.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 43. } *Nelson's Post-Office, N. C., March 11, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

II. The attention of the general commanding has been called to the frequent robberies committed on the division trains by soldiers of this command that have of late become so prevalent as to demand our utmost attention, aside from the demoralizing tendency such conduct must have. The supplies we have must be husbanded with every possible care, and any inroad that may hereafter be made on our trains will receive the closest scrutiny from the officers in the quartermaster's and commissary departments, and soldiers detected or convicted in the act of stealing supplies from the trains will be promptly punished by the general commanding with the loss of six months' pay.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. Woods:
FRED. H. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Little Rockfish Creek, N. C., March 11, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command marched at 7 a. m. to-day toward Fayetteville, crossed Duke's Branch and Rockfish Creek, and moved forward to Little Rockfish Creek, where camped, having marched twenty miles. Casualties, 1 man killed, 2 missing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Rockfish Creek, N. C., March 11, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. B. HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to request you to move at 7 o'clock in the morning on the Fayetteville road, going into camp in the neighborhood of the city.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Nelson's Post-Office, N. C., March 11, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the advance of this division moved from camp upon the west side of Big Raft Swamp at 10.40 this a. m. and marched, following the First Division, to Nelson's Post-Office, a distance of seven miles and a half, the rear arriving at camp at midnight. The pioneer corps corduroyed 500 yards of the road. The division is encamped upon both sides of the main road covering approaches from the rear. Headquarters upon the south side of the road in rear of the First Brigade. The small-pox train which had closed up to within about 500 yards of the command while it was moving out was attacked by a squad of rebel cavalry numbering ten or twelve. The rebels were dressed in the Federal uniform, and were supposed to be a portion of our cavalry until they reached the ambulances. They succeeded in getting away two horses. I sent my escort company in pursuit, but they having scattered in the swamp, it was impossible to overtake them.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Rockfish Creek, N. C., March 11, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. JOHN E. SMITH,
Commanding Third Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: In the movement on Fayetteville to-morrow morning, the general commanding requests that you will follow General Woods' division, well closed up.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Rockfish Creek, N. C., March 11, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. M. CORSE,
Commanding Fourth Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the general commanding to request you to move in the direction of Fayetteville as far as possible, reaching camp in the morning as early as you can, so that the First and Third Divisions may cross Rockfish Creek at a seasonable hour.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 40.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Davis' Springs, N. C., March 11, 1865.

I. The troops of this division will march at 6 a. m. to-morrow, the Second Brigade in advance, followed by the Third Brigade, and the

First Brigade in rear. Troops marching by the side and to the right of trains as heretofore ordered, two regiments in advance of trains and one in rear. Trains in their usual order. The advance guard will be instructed to relieve all guards stationed at occupied houses by its own guards, to be relieved in turn by the division in rear of this.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Fayetteville, N. C., March 11, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Special Field Orders, No. 59, from your headquarters, of this date. I inclose a copy of my order issued last night on the subject of foraging.* This order will be strictly carried into effect. My division and brigade commanders are alive to the importance of checking the excesses heretofore committed. I think that the small number of mounted men authorized by that order is barely sufficient to forage for the command. They can be easily restrained. The desire to be mounted will cause a strict compliance with the order, as any disobedience will cause the offender to be sent to his place in the line. I am as much in earnest as any one to the necessity of putting a stop to the irregularities and excesses of foragers, and feel satisfied that I can do it. It was impracticable to issue the inclosed order until last night, and it was not fully published to the command to-day. From this time forward it will be complied with. I respectfully ask that I may have an opportunity to test the efficacy of this order before enforcing your Special Field Orders, No. 59.†

Respectfully,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Fayetteville, N. C., March 11, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The pontoon will be put down about a mile below this city. It will be commenced about 7 a. m. to-morrow. The general wishes you to have one brigade of infantry and a battery of artillery to cover the crossing. The road to the point of crossing leaves this road a short distance in rear of our headquarters. A small party of rebels was seen between you and the Fifteenth Corps. The general wishes you to picket your rear well.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See paragraph II, p. 760.

† Reference is probably to Special Field Orders, No, 56, paragraph II, March 8, p. 728.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Fayetteville, N. C., March 11, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. A. MOWER,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to direct you to send one brigade and a battery of artillery to cover the crossing of the pontoon bridge at 7 a. m. to-morrow. The bridge will be laid about one mile below town. The road to the crossing leaves the main road a short distance in rear of department headquarters. Department headquarters are on the main road just beyond the bridge at the edge of town.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 11, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to direct you to take the advance this morning at 8 o'clock. General Mower's train is not yet up.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Wilmington [Fayetteville], March 11, 1865.

Capt. C. CADLE, Jr.,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that two dozen mounted men had left to capture the steam-boat before I left camp, chiefly the foraging party of the Thirtieth Illinois, and having no guide I was unable to direct Lieutenant-Colonel Hughes, and was obliged to act without his aid. Captain Munson has just sent word that he is on the boat raising steam, and expects to bring it up to Spring Hill Landing, on this side, three miles below the city. The party will remain guarding it till further orders.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. F. FORCE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

I suppose you have seen a Raleigh paper of 9th instant, giving account of Sheridan's capture of General Early, with most of his troops and all his guns and train.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Fayetteville, N. C., March 12, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of department headquarters.

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

LITTLE ROCKFISH, *March 11, 1865—6 a. m.*

General W. T. SHERMAN,
General-in-Chief:

GENERAL: The advance of the Fourteenth Army Corps last night reached Buckhead Creek, where they met the enemy in some force. Baird's division is now moving from this point. The Twentieth Corps is several miles in rear. I shall soon learn whether they intend to defend the place and shall be in there at 9 a. m. if they do not. If they do defend I shall find their lines and bring Williams up if possible to-day.

Very respectfully,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Three Miles from Rockfish Creek, March 11, 1865—9.20 a. m.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: Your order to send forward two divisions is just received. One division has passed this point; the balance of the corps is on the road coming up. I will come up with Jackson's and Ward's divisions at once. We had great difficulty in crossing the creek, which was very much swollen. I had to use material from the pontoon train.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
One Mile from Rockfish Creek, March 11, 1865.

Capt. H. M. WHITTELSEY,
Acting Chief Quartermaster:

CAPTAIN: Generals Ward and Jackson have been ordered to push forward to Fayetteville without trains. General Geary has been ordered to take charge of the entire corps train. The general directs that you park the train wherever you can find a good place until Geary comes up.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
One Mile from Fayetteville, March 11, 1865.

Lieutenant-Colonel MOORE,
Commanding Pontoon Train:

COLONEL: The general commanding the corps directs that you report with your train to Major-General Slocum at daylight in the morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Three Miles East of Rockfish Creek, March 11, 1865—9.30 a. m.

Brevet Major-General GEARY,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The brevet major-general commanding directs that you push forward at once two brigades of your command to cover the whole train, relieving all of the troops of the First and Third Divisions which are ordered forward unencumbered. The general desires that you will take charge of the whole train and push it forward toward Fayetteville as rapidly as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY COMMAND,
In the Field, N. C., on Chicken Road,
Eleven Miles from Fayetteville, March 11, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Military Division of the Mississippi:

MAJOR: You will remember that I stated in my last communication from Solemn Grove that Hardee was marching rapidly for Fayetteville, but that Hampton and Wheeler were still in rear, and that I would endeavor to cut them off. The information was correct. Hampton, however, was found to be moving upon two roads—the Morganton road and a road three miles farther to the north, and parallel to it, just south and east of Solemn Grove. I posted upon each road a brigade of cavalry, and learning that there was a road still farther north, upon which some of the enemy's troops might move, I made a rapid night march with Colonel Spencer's little brigade of three regiments and 400 dismounted men and one section of artillery, and took post at the point where the road last mentioned intersected the Morganton road. During the forepart of the evening I left General Atkins and joined Colonel Spencer with my staff and actually rode through one of General Hampton's divisions of cavalry, which by 11 o'clock had flanked General Atkins and was then encamped within three miles of Colonel Spencer. My escort of fifteen men and one officer was captured, but I escaped with my staff. General Atkins and Colonel Jordan discovered about 9 o'clock that, while the enemy was amusing them in front, [he] was passing with his main force on a road to his right. These officers at once pulled out and made every effort to join me before daylight but failed to do so, owing to the bad roads and the almost incessant skirmishing with the enemy, who was marching parallel to him, and at some points not a mile distant. Hampton had marched all day, and rested his men about three miles from Colonel Spencer's position at 2 o'clock in the morning, and just before daylight charged my position with three divisions of cavalry—Humes', Allen's, and Butler's. Hampton led the center division—Butler's—and in less than a minute had driven back my people, had taken possession of my headquarters, captured my artillery, and the whole command was flying before the most formidable cavalry charge I have ever witnessed. Colonel Spencer and a large portion of my staff were virtually taken prisoners. On foot I succeeded in gaining the cavalry camp, a few hundred yards in rear, and found the men fighting with the rebels for their camp and animals, and we were finally forced back some 500 yards farther to a swamp impassable to friend or foe.

The enemy, eager for plunder, failed to promptly follow us up. We rallied, and at once advanced upon the enemy. We retook the cavalry camp, and, encouraged by our success, charged the enemy, who was endeavoring to harness up my battery horses and plundering my headquarters. We retook the artillery, turned it upon the enemy about my headquarters, not twenty steps distant, and finally forced him out of my camp. We re-established our lines, and for an hour and a half foiled every attempt of the enemy to retake it. At about 8 o'clock General Mitchell, with a brigade of infantry, came within supporting distance, having rapidly marched to my assistance across the country from the plank road. He at once moved up into position, and remained with me until 1.30 o'clock, rendering me every assistance possible. The enemy did not, however, make it necessary for the infantry to fire a single shot. General Mitchell has my thanks and deserves great credit for the rapid march over a broken country, the soldierly feeling displayed, and anxiety to assist me. We lost 4 officers killed, 15 men, and 61 severely wounded, and several others slightly wounded, and 7 officers wounded, and we have lost in officers and men about 100. I do not think it will exceed that number, and may fall short of it. The enemy left in my camp upward of 70 killed, including many officers, and a large number of wounded. The enemy made nothing by the attack, save some 25 or 30 valuable horses about headquarters. We captured about 30 prisoners during the day and about 150 horses and equipments, which the enemy were forced to abandon in a swamp into which he was driven by a charge made by the Fifth Kentucky Cavalry. We held the only road upon which the enemy could move to Fayetteville without moving across the country to a road about five miles distant. I find, however, a portion of Hampton's cavalry passed during the night upon a road running between my present position and Little River. The main portion of his force, however, has not yet passed. I am now within two miles of the road mentioned, and as soon as my command has fed will move to intercept that portion which has not yet passed. I have written you in detail, that you may fully know all that has taken place. Prisoners taken from Allen's, Humes', and Butler's divisions differ as to the movements of Cheatham's command. Some say that it is moving upon the railroad, others that it is moving after Hardee, and will probably take a road north of Little River. The information is not, however, reliable. We have marched over the worst roads I ever saw, and have had scarcely forage for the past two days, Hardee having taken nearly everything in the country. My command very much needs rest.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General.

P. S.—Colonel Spencer informs me that it was a charge made by Captain Hinds' First Alabama Cavalry, and not Fifth Kentucky Cavalry, which drove the enemy into the swamp, resulting in the capture of their horses and animals.

J. K.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., March 11, 1865.

General KILPATRICK, *Commanding Cavalry:*

GENERAL: I have just received your report and read it with great satisfaction. I feared it was worse, as the enemy claims from 200 to

400 prisoners, which were conducted through Fayetteville. You may rest a couple of days, and then be ready to cross the river. I think there are some of the enemy that failed to escape across the bridge. You might send a strong foraging party up to the Little River bridge and burn the railroad bridge. The enemy have sent a good deal of ordnance up toward the coal mines on the railroad. I would like to have it and the cars and locomotives destroyed, but can hardly spare time. We will lay the pontoons to-morrow and cross Monday. I am at the arsenal. I did not get a dispatch from you at Solemn Grove.

Yours, &c.,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 11, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. G. W. SCHOFIELD:

The rebels seem satisfied with their pounding yesterday, and have disappeared, leaving their intrenching tools as well as their dead upon the field. It will take till afternoon to get up. I shall not move to-day. Let the Morehead garrison return, and ask Colonel Wright to push forward the railroad. Try to ascertain what has become of the pontoons and order them up.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
New Berne, N. C., March 11, 1865.

J. B. VAN DYNE,
Superintendent Military Railroads, New Berne, N. C.:

SIR: The troops brought up from Morehead City will be returned to that place as soon as you can conveniently furnish the trains. Please inform me at what hour, this p. m. or to-morrow a. m., you can furnish the first train, and what number of men can be taken on the same.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

NEW BERNE, *March 11, 1865.*

Colonel MCCHESNEY,
Morehead City:

The troops sent by you last night and this morning will be returned to-day or to-morrow. No more need come.

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 11, 1865.*

Major-General COX,
Wise's Forks:

The pontoons have arrived at Morehead, and will be sent up on the cars to-morrow. I have arranged to send supplies up by boat to Kins-

ton, if it prove practicable to reach that point. Give me the first information of the naval expedition; also of the reconnaissance sent toward Kinston to-day. Have good bridges built over Southwest Creek, and the troops supplied as far as practicable to-morrow.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Wise's Forks, March 11, 1865.

Capt. A. C. RHIND,
Commanding U. S. Naval Forces:

Your dispatch came yesterday as we were in the midst of a battle. I ordered a party of cavalry to patrol the river and endeavor to open communication with the vessels coming up, but was unable to send any considerable force away. The enemy, consisting of S. D. Lee's and Stewart's corps of Hood's old army and Hoke's division, attacked my left flank yesterday at 11.30 a. m. I repulsed them after a sharp fight, in which Hoke's division was routed and he is reported killed. A second attack was made about 1.30 p. m. on my left center, and Lee's and Stewart's men were there also repulsed. The enemy was severely punished, and has during the night evacuated his lines in my front and fallen back toward Kinston. We have between 200 and 300 prisoners. General Schofield was here in person during the latter half of the engagement.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
In the Field, March 11, 1865—9 a. m.

Major-General COX:

The enemy has evacuated his lines on Southwest Creek, in front of the right, on the line of the railroad, as I presume he has on the whole line. An officer sent from here has been inside of the works.

Respectfully, yours,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
British Road, March 11, 1865.

General J. D. COX,
Commanding:

GENERAL: A sergeant of the Ninth New Jersey has just reported to me that he has been as far across the creek as John Jackson's house, about three-quarters of a mile. Jackson says the enemy have gone toward Goldsborough as fast as possible. The fire in front is the burning of the ram Neuse and the bridges, I presume.

Very respectfully, yours,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

MARCH 11, 1865.

Mrs. I. N. PALMER,
New Berne:

All right up here. The rebels are off for Goldsborough. The ram is burning.

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General

NEWPORT, N. C., *March 11, 1865.*

ASST. ADJT. GEN. TO MAJOR-GENERAL SCHOFIELD:

I have the honor to report having just arrived here (without having communicated with General Couch), bringing two rebel soldiers. Bridge across White Oak without a post or stringer left, and no fording. Will report in person on first train unless otherwise directed.

EMORY CUMMINGS,
Captain Company A, Twenty-third New York Cavalry.

WILMINGTON, *March 11, 1865.*

Major-General SHERMAN:

Your dispatch of 8th received. The rebels have obstructed the river near Elizabethtown. I shall send up a steamer this afternoon to try and get the obstructions out. I shall also send all my cavalry, total 100, up the right bank of the river to open the road as far as possible. General Schofield is between New Berne and Goldsborough. He has with him the whole of the Twenty-third Corps and Palmer's and Meagher's commands. I have here about 9,000 infantry and two batteries, besides necessary garrisons.

TERRY,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., March 11, 1865.

Major-General TERRY,
Wilmington:

I have just received your dispatch of the 7th. We entered Fayetteville to-day, Hardee retreating eastward with 20,000 men and burning the bridge across Cape Fear River. We will cross the river to-morrow and start for Goldsborough on Tuesday. You can calculate the time of my arrival by the weather. I will strike the Wilmington railroad about Faison's. We are all well and have destroyed a vast amount of stores and done the enemy irreparable damage. I will destroy the arsenal utterly. I want everything concentrated at or as near Goldsborough as possible, with the railroad finished as near as possible. We have a large number of negroes and refugees that I may send to Wilmington.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., March 11, 1865.

General TERRY,
Wilmington:

I may send a train of wagons down Cape Fear River to convey refugees and negroes that have followed my army from South Carolina. Please ask Admiral Porter to have some gun-boats feel up Cape Fear River as high as Elizabeth City, or, at all events, as high up as the wreck of the Chickamauga, at Indian Wells. The rebels burned their steamboats here.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., *March 11, 1865—7.30 p. m.*
(Received 18th.)

Major-General TERRY,
Wilmington, N. C.:

To-day we have added Fayetteville to the list of cities that have fallen into our hands. Hardee, said to have 20,000 men, withdrew across the river yesterday and last night; he is reported en route for Raleigh. The rebels skirmished in the town, and fired artillery upon the houses occupied by women and children. They burned the bridge at this place, and removed all the public stores up the railroad that they could. General Sherman is here, well. Many men are wanting shoes and clothing, yet the army never was in better spirits. Expect us at Goldsborough by the 20th instant.

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL ARMY CORPS,
Wilmington, N. C., March 11, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: I have just received the inclosed dispatch from General Sherman.* The scout who brought it gives me the verbal message that the general has a large number of refugees, white and black, with him, and that he desires to have boats sent up to bring them here. I will make every effort to comply with General Sherman's wishes in this respect, but I think it doubtful whether I can succeed in doing so. The Eolus was able to penetrate only twenty-five miles above the town, and ascertained that a short distance beyond the mouth of the Black River there are obstructions, consisting of the wreck of the Chickamauga, piles, and a chain. I have also learned this morning that the enemy have a large number of negroes felling trees into the stream near Elizabethtown. I shall send a tug up the river this morning with a strong party on board to examine, and, if possible, to remove, the obstructions, and I intend to send 400 of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry up the right bank this afternoon, with instructions to penetrate as far as Elizabethtown, if possible, and drive off the parties engaged in obstructing the river. All is quiet in this vicinity.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Major-General.

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* See Sherman to Commanding Officer at Wilmington, 8th, p. 735.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 11, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN:

There are about 7,000 men here belonging to your army that I wish to forward to North Carolina as soon as possible, but I am not able to commence yet for the reasons that my transports are all engaged moving a part of my own command to Wilmington, by order of Lieutenant-General Grant, and I am greatly in want of coal for the steamers thus engaged. I have thus far been able to keep going by borrowing from the navy, but don't expect to get much more from that source. The first steamer that goes from this place to New York or Fort Monroe will carry an application for some transports for this purpose. I have requested General Schofield to send both steamers and coal if he can do so. I expect to send from my own command over 4,000 of my best white troops.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 35. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 11, 1865.

First Lieut. E. N. K. Talcott, First Regiment New York Volunteer Engineers, is hereby announced as aide-de-camp on the staff of the major-general commanding, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 11, 1865.

Brig. Gen. JOHN P. HATCH,
Comdg. Northern District, Dept. of the South, Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to direct that you put all the troops you can of the brigade ordered to Savannah, on board the steamer W. W. Coit, and that you continue to send said troops by every opportunity until the entire brigade has been sent.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 11, 1865.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. A. S. HARTWELL:

GENERAL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you encamp your command at the intrenchments on the Neck, relieving the Fifty-fourth New York Volunteers now there. Pickets will be kept to the front a sufficient distance to prevent a surprise. Guards will be posted in such a manner as to prevent persons leaving our lines without passes issued by the authority of the district commander. Contrabands and refugees will be admitted within the lines. Persons desiring to

enter to take the oath of allegiance will also be allowed to enter, but not pass out without a written pass. Patrols under command of commissioned officers will be sent out daily to apprehend stragglers and prevent marauding. One company will accompany the railroad train each day to Summerville. The officer in command of this company will have orders to be particularly careful that his men do not molest the citizens. Such details as are called for by the chief engineer for work on the intrenchments will be furnished.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 12, 1865—1 p. m.*
(Received 1.35 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

There is no doubt but some prisoners were captured from Cox or Palmer near Kinston. Colonel Mulford has been notified that they have been ordered to Richmond to be immediately exchanged. I do not want them furloughed. They should be kept at Annapolis or Point Lookout until declared exchanged. I do not suppose it to have been a defeat but a severe fight with our advance upon Kinston, in which we have lost some prisoners. On Thursday morning before daylight Kilpatrick was surprised near Cheraw, with a loss of camp equipage, 100 or 200 men, and a large number of rebel prisoners, previously captured by him. This is a rebel account. No paper was published in Richmond yesterday or to-day.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., Sunday, March 12, 1865.
(Received 16th.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

DEAR SIR: I know you will be pleased to hear that my army has reached this point and have opened communication with Wilmington. A tug-boat came up this morning, and will start back at 6 p. m. I have written to General Grant a letter, the substance of which he will doubtless communicate, and it must suffice for me to tell you what I know will give you pleasure, that I have done all I proposed and the fruits seem to me ample for the time employed. Charleston, Georgetown, and Wilmington are incidents, whilst the utter demolition of the railroad system of South Carolina, and the utter destruction of the enemy's arsenals at Columbia, Cheraw, and Fayetteville are the principles of the movement. These points were regarded as inaccessible to us, and now no place in the Confederacy is safe against the Army of the West. Let Lee hold on to Richmond and we will destroy his country, and then of what use is Richmond? He must come out and fight us on open ground, and for that we must ever be ready. Let him stick behind his parapets and he will perish. I remember well what you asked of me, and think I am on the right road, though a long one. My army is as united and cheerful as ever, and as full of confidence in themselves and

their leaders as ever. It is utterly impossible for me to enumerate what we have done, but I inclose a slip just handed me, which is but partial. At Columbia and Cheraw we destroyed nearly all the gunpowder and cartridges the Confederacy had in this part of the country. This arsenal is in fine order and much enlarged. I cannot leave a detachment to hold it, and, therefore, shall burn it—blow it up with gunpowder, and then with rams knock down its walls. I take it for granted the United States will never again trust Carolina with an arsenal to appropriate at her pleasure.

Hoping that good fortune may still attend my army, I remain, your servant,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

Memoranda.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., *March 12, 1865.*

Forty-three guns at Columbia, 25 guns at Cheraw, 17 guns at Fayetteville, total, 85, of which four-fifths were field guns, and all were serviceable; 50 field and siege gun carriages, 30 caissons, 5 battery wagons, 3 traveling forges.

Memorandum of General Barry, chief of artillery.

SHERMAN.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., March 12, 1865.
(Received 16th).

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding U. S. Army, City Point:

DEAR GENERAL: We reached this place yesterday at noon, Hardee, as usual, retreating across the Cape Fear, burning his bridge; but our pontoons will be up to-day, and with as little delay as possible I will be after him toward Goldsborough. A tug has just come up from Wilmington, and before I get off from here I hope to get up from Wilmington some shoes and stockings, some sugar, coffee, and flour. We are abundantly supplied with all else, having in a measure lived off the country. The army is in splendid health, condition, and spirit, although we have had foul weather and roads that would have stopped travel to almost any other body of men I ever read of. Our march was substantially what I designed—straight on Columbia, feigning on Branchville and Augusta. We destroyed in passing the railroad from the Edisto nearly up to Aiken. Again from Orangeburg to the Congaree. Again from Columbia down to Kingsville and the Wateree, and up toward Charlotte as far as the Chester line. Thence I turned east on Cheraw and thence to Fayetteville. At Columbia we destroyed immense arsenals and railroad establishments, among which were forty-three cannon. At Cheraw we found also machinery and material of war from Charleston, among which 25 guns and 3,600 barrels of gunpowder, and here we find about twenty guns and a magnificent U. S. arsenal. We cannot afford to leave detachments, and I shall, therefore, destroy this valuable arsenal, for the enemy shall not have its use, and the United States should never again confide such valuable property to a people who have betrayed a trust. I could leave here to-morrow, but want to clean my columns of the vast crowd of refugees

and negroes that encumber me. Some I will send down the river in boats, and the balance will send to Wilmington by land under small escort as soon as we are across Cape Fear River. I hope you have not been uneasy about us, and that the fruits of this march will be appreciated. It had to be made, not only to secure the valuable depots by the way, but its incidents in the necessary fall of Charleston, Georgetown, and Wilmington. If I can now add Goldsborough without too much cost, I will be in position to aid you materially in the spring campaign. Joe Johnston may try to interpose between me here and Schofield about New Berne, but I think he will not try that, but concentrate his scattered armies at Raleigh, and I will go straight at him as soon as I get my men reclothed and our wagons reloaded. Keep everybody busy and let Stoneman push toward Greensborough or Charlotte from Knoxville. Even a feint in that quarter will be most important. The railroad from Charlotte to Danville is all that is left to the enemy, and it won't do for me to go there on account of the "red clay" hills, that are impassable to wheels in wet weather. I expect to make a junction with General Schofield in ten days.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., Sunday, March 12, 1865.

Generals EASTON and BECKWITH, or either,
At Wilmington:

GENTLEMEN: We need very much shoes, stockings, drawers, and pants; also flour, bread, sugar, and coffee; all else we have in abundance. I cannot afford to stay here longer than Wednesday. The river is now high, and if you, or either of you, are in Wilmington, send from there what you can of such articles as I have mentioned, to the capacity of the boats you have at disposal.

Do not draw from New Berne, but collect there the great depot, especially of forage and clothing. My command will need an entire equipment of clothing. We have been in water half the time since leaving Savannah, and consequently the clothing is worn out. We have not lost a wagon, and our animals are in good condition; but I take it for granted we shall find little or no forage about Goldsborough. The moment you hear I am approaching Goldsborough forward to meet me clothing and bread, sugar and coffee, and empty wagons will meet them. We have made a hard and extraordinary march and achieved all I could expect. We are in good health and fighting condition.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 29. } HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., March 12, 1865.

I. The general commanding takes pleasure in announcing to the army that he is now in communication with Wilmington, a steam-tug having arrived. He will dispatch her with mail at 6 p. m. to-day, and have some essential supplies brought up, but we have another march to make before reaching our true destination.

II. Lieut. S. H. M. Byers, Fifth Iowa Infantry, escaped prisoner, is detailed as bearer of dispatches, and will proceed in the tug-boat now at the bridge to Wilmington and deliver his dispatches, thence to General Grant, at City Point, and thence to Washington City, to report to the Commissary-General of Prisoners for instructions.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 59.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Fayetteville, N. C., March 12, 1865.

In order to comply with the instructions contained in Special Field Orders, No. 28, from headquarters Military Division of the Mississippi, the Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will cross Cape Fear River to-morrow with all troops and trains, and moving out not more than two miles, take position with the left on Lock's Creek, and be ready to move forward via Beaman's Cross-Roads. The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will follow the Seventeenth Army Corps, and its crossing being completed on Tuesday, the 14th instant, and take position on the right of the Seventeenth Army Corps, ready to move forward via Owensville. These headquarters will move at 9 a. m. to-morrow, and be established on the other side of the river.

* * * * * * *

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 12, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that I left camp at daylight this morning, and moved out on the Fayetteville road, striking the Fourth Division of the corps at the crossing over Little Rockfish Creek. Halting here until 12 m., I obtained possession of the road and at once resumed my march, via Little Rockfish, to a point on the main road within three miles of Fayetteville. I here encamped my division on the left of the road, facing toward the rear, connecting my right on the road with the Third Division. My headquarters are near the road, about a quarter of a mile in rear of my line.

I am, major, very respectfully,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 12, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. WOODS,
Commanding First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to request you to send two regiments, under command of an efficient officer, across the pontoon bridge over the Cape Fear River at 3 a. m. to-morrow. The

officer in command, on crossing, will leave a strong guard at the bridge on the north bank, and prevent any members of the Fifteenth Army Corps from crossing until the corps commences to cross. With the rest of his command he will move into the country and forage meal, corn, meat, and potatoes for the corps, depositing the same in his camp until the corps shall have crossed.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Fayetteville, N. C., March 12, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command marched at 7 a. m.; crossed Little Rockfish Creek near camp, and moved forward to Fayetteville. Camped one mile southeast of the city, having marched six miles. Casualties, 1 officer and 6 men captured, 1 man killed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 12, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the advance of this command moved from camp at 9 o'clock this a. m., and marched, following the First Division, via Rockfish Factory, to within two miles of Fayetteville; a distance of thirteen miles. The division is encamped in line upon the west side of the main road, fronting southwest. Headquarters are in rear of the First Brigade and about 500 yards from main road.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 64. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Fayetteville, N. C., March 12, 1865.

The command will move to the opposite side of the river to-morrow, on the lower pontoon bridge.

The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will commence crossing at 7 a. m., and will move forward about three miles on the road to Beaman's Cross-Roads.

The First Division, Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower commanding, will commence crossing at 8 a. m.

The Fourth Division, Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith commanding, will follow the First Division, being prepared to move at 10 o'clock.

The Third Division, Brig. Gen. M. F. Force commanding, will follow the Fourth Division, being prepared to move at 12 o'clock.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 58. } *Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 12, 1865.*

This command will cross the Cape Fear River to-morrow, following Fourth Division, at 12 m. The First Brigade, Col. C. Fairchild commanding, will have the advance. The Fifteenth Ohio Battery, Lieut. L. Bailey commanding, will follow the First Brigade. The Second Brigade, Col. G. F. Wiles commanding, will follow the battery, except one regiment as rear guard. The trains will follow the troops in their usual order. Every man is expected to be in his place to-morrow without either a bummer or a straggler to disgrace the command. In marching through the city the ranks will be kept well dressed, and the bands will play.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., March 12, 1865.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Your report of subsistence on hand is received. The general-in-chief directs me to say that in all probability we will remain here to include Wednesday, and if possible will get such essential stores as are required. He is anxious that you should secure the steamers on the river above us, and will give you the exclusive use of them as you may wish.

I am, with respect, yours, &c.,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
No. 26. } *Fayetteville, N. C., March 12, 1865.*

I. General Baird, commanding city of Fayetteville, will proceed to destroy all railroad property, all shops, factories, and tanneries. All mills will be used by our army, but just before evacuating the city General Baird will see all grinding mills destroyed, except one run by water power, of sufficient capacity to grind meal for the citizens of the town.

II. Corps commanders will see that all refugees and negroes not useful in the army are sent to Wilmington. Each corps commander will detail fifty men, as guard, favoring escaped soldiers, or those entitled to discharge. An officer from army headquarters will conduct them to Wilmington.

III. The pontoon bridge will at once be thrown across the river under charge of General Davis, commanding Fourteenth Corps, who, as soon as it is attained, will cross all his command except Baird's division.

IV. The Twentieth Corps will follow General Baird's division, camping on the opposite side.

By command of Maj. Gen. H. W. Slocum:

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Fayetteville, N. C., March 12, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. C. DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding has just been informed by an officer of the pontoon train, that the bridge is completed and the men are now working on the approach on the other side, which he thought would be finished in one hour from the time he left. General Slocum wishes your troops marched through the town separate from wagons.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING,
Fayetteville, N. C., March 12, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. JEF. C. DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that the Twentieth Corps will follow General Carlin's division of the Fourteenth Corps across the river. General Baird's division of the Fourteenth Corps will remain on duty in the town until it is evacuated.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. G. TRACY,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 12, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

I have the honor to forward a dispatch in cipher from General Sherman, giving most gratifying information of his progress.* General Terry and General Dodge, at Wilmington, are endeavoring to carry out General Sherman's wishes there, and I hope to be able to fulfill his expectations here. In the battle of the 10th, near Southwest Creek, Bragg was fairly beaten. During the night he retreated across the Neuse at Kinston. He now holds the north bank of the river at that point.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., Sunday, March 12, 1865.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Commanding at New Berne, N. C.:

GENERAL: We reached here yesterday and will be delayed until Tuesday or Wednesday putting down pontoons. I will destroy utterly the arsenal and other public property, and I hope to get up some shoes and small stores from Wilmington before we leave. I will then

* See Sherman to Commanding Officer at Wilmington, 8th, p. 735.

march in compact order straight for the bridge across Neuse River, south of Goldsborough. I expect to make junction with you thereabouts. If I don't find you there I will feel toward Kinston and New Berne. I will need clothing and provisions. We have gathered plenty of cattle and bacon and a good deal of corn meal and molasses. We have also found plenty of corn and fodder, and my animals are all in good order. I will have trains enough for you. I have plenty of wagons and mules for 100,000 men, so you need not bring any from the North. On making junction with you, I want you to make your command 25,000, and will call it the Center, thus restoring our old Atlanta organization. Go on repairing the railroad toward Goldsborough, and let Terry repair the Wilmington road northward as far as he can, and if possible to the Neuse. I will get the navy to patrol Cape Fear River so as to make the Wilmington and Goldsborough road safe. You must judge as to the mode and manner of covering the railroad from Goldsborough to New Berne. I have ordered General Foster to diminish his garrisons of Savannah, Charleston, and Wilmington to the minimum and re-enforce the movement from New Berne on Goldsborough. I really do not know if any change has been made in the command on the seaboard, but whether you or Foster command I want the foregoing policy to be adopted. If I find that holding Savannah, Charleston, and Wilmington will cost us too many men I would not hesitate to destroy them and use the garrisons in the field. It will be time enough to build up the country when war is over. Keep your command well concentrated on the defensive, advancing as fast as the road is built, but reach Goldsborough if possible and fortify. Hardee crossed here with a force represented at 20,000, but I don't see the "signs" of that many. He has six batteries of four guns each. I suppose Johnston may have up about Greensborough now moving to Raleigh 10,000, and I estimate Hoke's command at 8,000. All told, he may concentrate at Raleigh 40,000 to 45,000 men. I can whip that number with my present force, and with yours and Terry's added we can go wherever we can live. We can live where the people do, and if anybody has to suffer let them suffer. Collect all the forage you can at New Berne, also provisions and clothing. We will need an immense supply of clothing, for we have been working from knee to waist deep in water for 400 miles and our men will need reclothing throughout. Organize your command into divisions of about 5,000 men each, but don't embrace any men rightfully belonging to the organizations now with me, but order them at once to join their proper brigades and divisions on our arrival at your neighborhood. We have had so much bad weather in February and March that I hope we now may count on a change for the better. Hoping to meet you in person in ten days,

I am, your friend,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., Sunday, March 12, 1865—5 p. m.

General SCHOFIELD,
New Berne:

GENERAL: I have this moment received at the hands of the two officers of the navy who came from Wilmington by canoe and land your cipher dispatch of March 4. I am marching for Goldsborough,

and will start Wednesday. I wrote you fully to-day, and send by this same opportunity, viz, the tugboat Davidson, that came up from Wilmington last night.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., Sunday, March 12, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER GUN-BOAT FLEET,
Cape Fear River:

SIR: My army is here, the enemy having fled eastward across the river, burning his bridge, but I will have pontoons down to-day. I will be here probably till Wednesday, and would like some of your boats to come up for effect, and, if agreeable, can give you a load of "refugees or cotton at pleasure." I would like to produce the "effect" of a design to establish a "base," which, of course, I do not propose to do. Water will continue high some time.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, *March 12, 1865.*

Brigadier-General EASTON, *Morehead:*

I have a dispatch from General Sherman which indicates that you can go ahead according to his original plan.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 12, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD, *New Berne:*

I was not confident enough in the accuracy of the report from the cavalry scout yesterday to send it. An infantry sergeant with a few men went to the river. The planks are taken off the bridge and piled up. An infantry picket is at this end of the bridge, which ran back across the river on the approach of our reconnoitering party. The rebels opened with artillery from works on the other side of the Neuse, where a considerable line of rifle-pits and some embrasures for artillery were seen. Such is the sergeant's report, and I think it true. Hoke signs himself in command of the forces, indicating that the rest are gone.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
March 12, 1865.

Major-General SCHOFIELD, *New Berne:*

Hoke sent in a request to exchange what prisoners we have, both here and at New Berne. What answer shall I make?

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 12, 1865—4.15 p. m.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
New Berne:

I sent Major Dow out with the answer to Hoke's flag of truce. He went close to the wagon bridge. He thinks the middle of it is destroyed, but the ends standing. No force on this side the Neuse. Those who met the flag apparently came over in a boat. I believe it will be safe to send up the flats with provisions to-morrow, under convoy of the armed vessels which were up yesterday. The road from here to the railroad is reported as becoming impassable, and we shall have great difficulty in getting supplies unless the railroad can be pushed to Gum Swamp to-night. Couch's trains will do no more than get into camp this p. m., the cross-roads being bad and the teams almost exhausted. To get to Kinston and open river communication at the earliest moment seems a pressing necessity.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding District.

NEW BERNE, *March 12, 1865.*

Major-General COX:

May it not be practicable to get possession of the bridge at Kinston, and relay the planks for crossing, or, at least, to prevent its destruction until we can cross elsewhere and take the place. I expect to send up to-day 400 feet of pontoon bridge? Ascertain, if you can, whether that will be sufficient to cross the river anywhere near Kinston.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 12, 1865—7 p. m.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
New Berne:

Four hundred feet of pontoon bridge will make two bridges across Neuse River anywhere near Kinston. I am of opinion that the enemy has already done all the mischief to the bridges which they intend.

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

U. S. STEAMER AGAWAM,
New Berne, March 12, 1865—7 p. m.

General COX:

The Ella May returned at 6.30 p. m. The Shrapnel is also on her way down. Captain Thornton reports that he met with no obstacles on his route. Shall I send up another expedition? Will start the Shrapnel up as soon as coaled, if you wish, and send my boats again. Please answer as soon as possible.

Respectfully, yours,

A. C. RHIND,
Commander.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., March 12, 1865.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding U. S. Forces, Wilmington:

GENERAL: I have just received your message by the tug which left Wilmington at 2 p. m. yesterday, and arrived here without trouble. The scout who brought me your cipher message started back last night with my answers, which are superseded by the fact of your opening the river. General Howard just reports that he has secured one of the enemy's steam-boats below the city, and General Slocum will try and secure two known to be above, and we will load them with refugees, white and black, that have clung to our skirts, impeded our movements, and consumed our food. We have swept the country well from Savannah here, and my men and animals are in fine condition. Had it not been for the foul weather, I would have caught Hardee at Cheraw or here. But at Columbia, Cheraw, and here, we got immense stores, and have destroyed machinery, guns, ammunition, and property of inestimable value to our enemy. At all points he has fled from us, "standing not on the order of his going." The people of South Carolina, instead of feeding Lee's army, will now call on Lee to feed them. I want you to send me all the shoes, stockings, drawers, sugar, coffee, and flour you can spare; finish the loads with oats or corn. Have the boats escorted, and let them run at night at any risk. We must not lose time for Joe Johnston to concentrate at Goldsborough. We cannot prevent his concentrating at Raleigh, but he shall have no rest. I want General Schofield to go on with his railroad from New Berne as far as he can, and you do the same from Wilmington. If we can get the roads to and secure Goldsborough by April 10, it will be soon enough, but every day now is worth a million of dollars. I can whip Joe Johnston provided he don't catch one of my corps in flank, and I will see that my army marches hence to Goldsborough in compact form. I must rid my army of from 20,000 to 30,000 useless mouths, as many to go down Cape Fear as possible, and balance will go in the vehicles, and captured horses via Clinton to Wilmington. I thank you for the energetic action that has marked your course, and shall be most happy to meet you.

I am, truly, your friend,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

NEW BERNE, *March 12, 1865.*

Major-General TERRY,
Wilmington:
(Via steamer from Beaufort.)

General Cox gave Bragg a good beating at Southwest Creek on the 10th and drove him across the Neuse at Kinston. General Couch arrived yesterday all right. Inform General Sherman that I cannot count on having the railroad completed farther than Kinston by the 20th, but will have supplies for him there, and farther if possible; also inform him that he may look for General Sheridan with 8,000 cavalry in a few days.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

(Forwarded by General Terry to General Sherman.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., *March 12, 1865—3.30 p. m.*
(Received 22d.)

Major-General GILLMORE,
Hilton Head:
(Via New York.)

General Grant directs me to say that the second brigade of Grover's division should be sent to Wilmington unless you learn that Sherman strikes the coast south of that point, in which case they will join him wherever he may be. It is General Grant's wish that no points in the Department of the South be garrisoned which you do not deem it essential to defend. No active operations are contemplated in that quarter. Your duty is simply defensive.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., March 12, 1865.

Major-General FOSTER,
Commanding Department of the South, Charleston:

GENERAL: We reached this place yesterday without opposition. Our march was exactly as I expected, and its fruits all I could have asked for. We have destroyed vast magazines at Columbia, Cheraw, and here, and have destroyed effectually the railroad system of South Carolina. From Cheraw I sent a small cavalry force to Florence, but it found a force of infantry and cavalry more than it could master and had to return, breaking only the railroad trestles down as far as Darlington. The enemy still has much railroad stock and munitions on the track about Sumterville and Florence, and if you can make up a force of 2,500 men out of your Charleston and Savannah garrisons I want you to reach that road and destroy everything possible and exhaust the country of supplies. The best points of departure are Georgetown and the Santee bridge. I think Admiral Dahlgren could send some light gun-boats up the Santee, but don't know enough about the bar; but the distance from Georgetown does not exceed sixty miles, and we look on sixty miles as a pleasant excursion. As soon as you accomplish this reduce your garrisons at Savannah and Charleston to the minimum and re-enforce the movement on Goldsborough, which is the real objective now. I expect to be there in ten days. My army is in splendid health and condition, and we have had no battle involving more than a single brigade or division at a time. Our foragers have had plenty of fighting on a limited scale, and have gathered more bacon, chickens, turkeys, and corn meal than I believed was in the country. We are now only short of bread, sugar, and coffee, but our men have been so much in the mud and water that shoes and stockings are scarce. Send to Goldsborough via New Berne all the clothing you can spare.

I am, truly, your friend,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 12, 1865.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: Your note with reference to the minimum garrison of Charleston is received. Captain Suter goes down in the Coit and will communicate to you the substance of our conversation. As a minimum garrison, to hold the harbor only until relief could be obtained from the North, 1,000 men, with the assistance of the navy, would probably be sufficient. A garrison of 2,500 for the defenses and 500 as city police (total, 3,000), will probably be sufficient to hold the place and its immediate vicinity after the new defenses are completed. The present force should, in my opinion, be retained until the works are complete. The weather has been so bad that little has yet been done toward them. It is important that Suter should return here as soon as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 12, 1865.

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that General Potter's troops are now all returned to the city with the exception of some of the artillery, which will be here to-day. I have made the following disposition of the troops to enable us to complete the defenses at an early day: Byt. Brig. Gen. A. S. Hartwell's brigade, at the Charleston Neck; Col. C. H. Van Wyck's brigade, at Mount Pleasant; the brigade from General Prince's command, south of the Ashley River. The remainder of the troops of Brigadier-General Schimmelfennig's command are occupying the forts on James, Sullivan's and Morris Islands. I would respectfully call the attention of the department commander to the organization of the command into a division of two or three brigades. It would not only facilitate the transaction of business here, but would give us organized bodies for future movements. The creating provisional brigades for service in the field has worked very badly. The brigades made up of parts of regiments necessarily became to a certain extent demoralized from being under officers unknown to them. Muster and pay rolls and returns are not forwarded promptly as they should be. Staff officers have to be sought and instructed in these duties at a time when well qualified ones are most needed. The suffering of the men from these causes can only be understood by actually observing it as I have.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 12, 1865.

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date with instructions about hastening the forma-

tion of Hallowell's brigade. The Coit will take on this trip all she can carry. The Loyalist will sail to-morrow if I can get coal for her. Will you please call the attention of the department commander to the necessity for more steamers here. The Anna Maria is the only steamer I will have after the Loyalist leaves that can go to sea, except the Hooker, and one of these I am required by the general's order to keep running between this point and Georgetown. The Anna Maria is now at Georgetown. As soon as she returns I will send the Hooker with half a regiment to the Head or Savannah. I have not yet been able to commence removing obstructions in the inner channel, not having a steamer for the purpose. The Colonel Bennett has been repairing and will answer for the purpose. She will be put on the duty in a day or two.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 13, 1865—1 p. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

I am in receipt of a letter of the 7th from General Schofield. At that time Cox was within three miles of Kinston, and repairs on the railroad were going on rapidly. Hoke's division was confronting him. Schofield was going out himself and expected to push out and take Kinston at once. Palmer was ordered and should have taken Kinston while Hoke was at Wilmington. I have not yet learned his excuse for his failure.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 13, 1865.*
(Received 3.45 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The following items are taken from to-day's Richmond papers:

We have some good news this morning. News of a victory in South Carolina. It is announced in the following official dispatch from General Lee. Though the dispatch is rather scant in its particulars, enough is given to show that Kilpatrick was badly routed.

"HEADQUARTERS, &C.,
March 10, 1865.

"Hon. JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
"*Secretary of War:*

"General Hampton attacked General Kilpatrick at daylight this morning and drove him from his camp, taking his guns, wagons, many horses, several hundred prisoners, and releasing a great number of our own men who had been captured. The guns and wagons could not be brought off for want of horses. Many of the enemy were killed and wounded. Our loss not heavy. Lieut. Col. J. S. King was killed, Brigadier-General Humes, Colonels Hagan and Harrison, and Majors Lewis, Ferguson, and others were wounded.

"R. E. LEE,
"*General.*"

It will be observed that the locality of the fight is not named in the dispatch. This is for prudential reasons. Sherman has no communication with the North, and it would be imprudent to publish where he was, as it would only be giving news to

Grant of his progress. Matters are beginning to look decidedly better for us in the south. In the last three days we have had news of two victories, one in North Carolina and one in South Carolina.*

CHARLOTTE, *March 8, 1865.*

The Southern Express Company's messenger from Augusta brings advices to 3d instant. No news of interest had transpired west of the Savannah River. The Georgia Senate passed a resolution declaring that it does not concur in the recommendation of Governor Brown for a convention. Yeas 20, nays 8. Several extensive fires had occurred in Augusta, supposed to be the work of an incendiary. About 400 Yankee prisoners will leave Richmond this morning on their return home by flag-of-truce boat. Among the number are thirty-three officers, including Generals Kelley and Crook, recently captured.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 32.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., March 13, 1865.

I. Maj. John S. Windsor, One hundred and sixteenth Illinois Infantry, is hereby detailed to conduct to Wilmington all the refugees, white and black, that now encumber the army. The commanding general of each wing and of the cavalry will turn over to him all such refugees, with such wagons, horses, and mules, &c., whether captured or public, as may be necessary to facilitate their journey, with a small supply of flour, bacon, and beef-cattle. Major Windsor will conduct them to Wilmington and turn them over to the quartermaster's department or Treasury agent, who will dispose of them according to laws or existing orders. A guard of 100 men will be sent from each wing, composed of men entitled to discharge or furlough, provided with their papers, to take effect on arrival at Wilmington.

II. Major Windsor will, on the completion of this duty, return to his command via Beaufort, N. C.

III. The quartermaster's department will supply Major Windsor with all the facilities in its power to carry out this order.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, March 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

GENERAL: I send the steamer Howard with commissary stores and forage. I will send other boats with supplies as soon as possible, and will come myself and see what you require. General Easton is at Beaufort. I am not able to state the amount of supplies he has. I ordered from Washington 20,000 pairs of shoes, which have arrived at Beaufort; also forage for your army. I will push everything we have here to Fayetteville with the greatest possible dispatch, and will explain the state of affairs as soon as I can reach you. I send a box of cigars, and will select some other articles to send you by the next boat.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. S. DODGE,
Brevet Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

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* For portion of dispatch here omitted, see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 946.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., *March 13, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I find the boat much smaller than I thought. It cannot stow more than 150 persons, Colonel Wilson reports. Please have the refugees not to exceed thirty in number, from your own and from the different division headquarters, ready at the boat by 10 a. m. to-day.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cade's Plantation, N. C., March 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general has been requested to move four divisions in light marching order on the upper road, that the Left Wing may be supported if necessary. You will therefore encamp your corps to the left or rear of General Blair instead of on the right, as heretofore ordered, and be ready to move forward on the upper road. You will move three of your divisions with only their headquarters and regimental trains, and ten ammunition wagons for each division with five days' supplies, two of which will be carried in the regimental wagons. The supply trains and the remainder of the ordnance train will be consolidated, and move in rear of this column, and the other division move as a guard for the train. This division will not be relieved during the march to Faison's Depot. A small portion of our headquarters train will move with your column. General Blair has been directed to move via Clinton. The pontoon train and surplus wagons from these headquarters will follow him. The order of march will be issued to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Please cross two of your divisions by Slocum's bridge as soon as it is free to you to-morrow.

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 13, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. WOODS,
Commanding First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: It has been reported that the enemy's cavalry are moving on the road that we came on yesterday, with, it is presumed, the design of breaking the bridge across Little Rockfish Creek and catching some of our forage details now absent between the two Rockfish creeks. Please send a sufficient force to the bridge on that road to support the details now absent from the command, should they become engaged with the enemy, and facilitate their return to camp. I send you the man who makes the report.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION,
March 13, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: One forage detail sent out this a. m. of sixty wagons has a regiment as escort, and another has just been ordered down to the Rockfish bridge for the purpose directed in your communication.

I am, major, very respectfully,

FRED. H. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 13, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that no change has occurred in my command to-day. I am still encamped near Fayetteville, N. C., my headquarters being located in the same place as indicated in my letter of March 12.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 45. } *Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 13, 1865.*

I. In pursuance with instructions received from Department and Army of the Tennessee, all orders heretofore issued from these headquarters regulating the organization of mounted foraging parties in this command are hereby revoked. There will be formed forthwith in each brigade of the division a mounted detail for foraging purposes, consisting of twenty enlisted men, to be placed under charge of a good and reliable commissioned officer. The senior officer of the three will take command of the entire detail. When the parties have been thus formed the fact will be notified to these headquarters. In no instance will these parties be permitted to go beyond the advance guard of the leading division on our line of march, nor more than five miles distant from either flank of the column. All stores obtained by detail will be apportioned out each evening by the officer commanding to the several brigades in the division. Should any considerable bulk be captured it will be turned in to the commissary of the division for issue to the entire command. All surplus animals captured will be turned in at once to the division quartermaster. The officer commanding the detail will receive instructions each night from these headquarters as to our probable destination for the following day, so that he may give the necessary directions to the different brigade parties under his charge. The officer only commanding the regimental parties will be mounted, and no mounted foragers will be recognized except those belonging to these brigade parties. The men will all be furnished by their regimental commanders with proper written details, these to be countersigned by the officer commanding the entire party.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. Woods:

FRED. H. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Fayetteville, N. C., March 13, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command remained in camp to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 13, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. JOHN E. SMITH,
Commanding Third Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: In accordance with instructions from the commanding general of the army, you will please move your division across General Slocum's pontoon bridge, at such hour to-morrow as you can get the bridge.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Fayetteville, N. C., March 13, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that on the 10th instant I moved my command from its two positions on Juniper Creek and Johnson's plantation at 6 a. m. on the old Stage road toward Fayetteville, crossing Lumber River, and moving from thence to the intersection of the telegraph road, which I pursued to the left as far as Parson McNeill's plantation, where I massed my division, General Hazen's train not having left its park, a short distance in advance of my position. From this point I sent forward my pioneer corps and three regiments of infantry to work upon the road through Raft Swamp, and at 7 p. m. moved my supply and ordnance trains, making this point at daybreak the 11th instant, when it was parked, the infantry going into bivouac during the night in the swamp, the remainder of my infantry and trains remaining in bivouac at McNeill's plantation, my command making a march of eight miles.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Fayetteville, N. C., March 13, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following as a report of the movements of my command on the 11th instant: Breaking camp at

6.30 a. m. I moved on the telegraph road in the direction of Fayetteville, in rear of the Second Division of this corps, making a march of sixteen miles, mostly over corduroy roads, and going into bivouac across Davis' Creek at 10 p. m. My pioneer corps was engaged in constructing a connecting bridge with the pontoons during the night.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Fayetteville, N. C., March 13, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following as a report of the movements of my division on the 12th instant: Breaking camp at 8 a. m. (this hour being necessary for the completion of the bridge being constructed by my pioneers), and crossing Big Rockfish Creek, continued on the telegraph or old Stage road, a distance of two miles; thence to the right upon a sand road, crossing the plank road, and moving via Rockfish Factory on Little Rockfish Creek to the vicinity of Fayetteville, arriving abreast of the Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, having moved on a road nearly parallel, at 2 p. m., placing my command in bivouac and in position forming two sides of a square, with the right more extended by the length of one brigade added, facing to the front and left.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Fayetteville, N. C., March 13, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that my division has remained in bivouac during this instant, occupying the same position as assumed yesterday. Orders regulating and organizing a division foraging party have not been enforced until to-day, owing to the fact that the mounted details of this command have been absent since the reception of the orders. The benefits to be derived from this system of foraging cannot be fully determined in my division until a practical working can be had, but I doubt not that it will be for the good of the service in many respects.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 42.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 13, 1865.

* * * * * * *

VIII. The troops of this division will march at daylight to-morrow, crossing the pontoon bridge over Cape Fear River, and going into camp on the right of the Seventeenth Army Corps, two miles distant from the river, in the following order, viz: Third Brigade in advance, followed

by the First Brigade and the Second Brigade in rear and closing the column. Troops to march by the side of the trains, except two regiments in advance and two in rear. Advance and rear guards will do their duty in regard to picking up stragglers, guarding occupied dwellings, &c.; battery and trains in same order as heretofore.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Fayetteville, March 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Corps:

GENERAL: I have concluded to push you to the right through Clinton, and Logan by the left route through Beaman's Cross-Roads, &c. Please reconnoiter for cross-roads to get out of his way when we start. I want you to shorten your column by marching troops by the side of your trains as much as possible. The pontoon will follow you.

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Fayetteville, N. C., March 13, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that he wishes you to remain in your present camp to-morrow. He wishes you, however, to explore the road leading toward Troublefield's Store and Kyle's Landing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. —.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Fayetteville, N. C., March 13, 1865.

This command will march, following the Third Division, this afternoon across the river. General Sherman will review the troops as they pass the headquarters, Left Wing, in the center of the city.

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By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary:

W. T. FORBES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRTEENTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY,
Elizabethtown, N. C., March 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN, U. S. Army:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the arrival of this regiment from Wilmington, N. C., by order of Major-General Terry. No enemy on the road, and two gun-boats on their way up the river.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. KERWIN,
Colonel, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., Monday, March 13, 1865.

Col. M. KERWIN,
Comdg. Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Elizabethtown:

DEAR COLONEL: Yours of this date with cipher dispatches of General Terry is just received by the officer and detachment sent by you. A tug-boat came up yesterday from Wilmington, and has returned. Another boat is here to go down to-night, and by her I send instructions to General Terry to send a boat with rations and forage for you, and to ferry you across to the east bank of Cape Fear, when I wish you to strike northeast for the railroad, and to join me somewhere about Faison's Station. Such orders should reach you by the 15th. I will move from here on that day—the 15th—for Goldsborough, striking the Wilmington road about Faison's, south of the Neuse River.

I am, truly, yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., Monday, March 13, 1865.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Commanding U. S. Forces, New Berne:

GENERAL: I wrote you at length by the tug-boat Davidson yesterday. By to-morrow morning all my army, save one division, will be across the Cape Fear, and I will await till Wednesday morning in hopes to receive from Wilmington some shoes, stockings, &c., when we will start for Goldsborough, approaching it from the south and communicating with you at the Neuse Bridge, near Kinston. Have Generals Easton and Beckwith advised to be all ready to resupply us, first clothing, next bread, then sugar, coffee, and forage. My troops and trains are in good order.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., Monday, March 13, 1865—9 p. m.

General SCHOFIELD, *New Berne:*

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 9th this moment received. Re-enforce your movement all you can and you can take Terry's command from Wilmington if you want them. Secure, if possible, the crossing of Neuse near Kinston and get all the timbers ready for the bridge. I will in a day or two so threaten Raleigh that the enemy will be forced to move from your front toward Raleigh, when you can press forward toward Goldsborough.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, *March 13, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD, *Commanding, &c.:*

The naval commander has asked for the boats Ella May and Shrapnel to be placed at his disposal, to enable him to carry out instructions

received from General Cox. I understand he wishes them to use in blowing up the ram in the river, and they will probably be destroyed or disabled permanently. Captain Kimball wishes instructions. Will you please signify your wishes?

W. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

WISE'S FORKS, *March 13, 1865.*

Major WHERRY,
Aide-de-Camp, New Berne:

I cannot spare the boats for the purpose named by the naval commander, nor do I care about the ram being blown up. The rebels will blow it up soon enough.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wise's Forks, March 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding District of Beaufort, Wise's Forks, N. C.:

GENERAL: We will effect a crossing of the Neuse to-morrow, if practicable. It is doubtful whether the pontoons will be ready, but we may be able to cross without them. You may move up early in the morning opposite Kinston and endeavor to secure possession of the wagon bridge, drive the enemy from the opposite bank, and cross. This, of course, will not be practicable without more loss than it is wise to incur if the crossing proves to be held in force. If you find the enemy in force, put artillery and infantry in position to cover the bridge and demonstrate strongly as if to cross at and above Kinston. I will then reconnoiter for a crossing below and get up the pontoons. General Couch will keep within supporting distance on the Dover road and will make the crossing with the pontoon bridge if that prove to be necessary.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

U. S. STEAMER AGAWAM,
March 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX:

Your telegram of this date is received. I have called on the quartermaster for the steamers, and shall dispatch the expedition up the river again to-night if the vessels are furnished me in time. I shall try to rig a torpedo on the Ella May to blow up the rebel iron-clad, if possible. Lieutenant-Commander Thornton brought down a deserter from a North Carolina battery stationed at Kinston. He reports that the enemy evacuated the place, but that Hoke's division returned yesterday morning and reoccupied the place. He also states that D. H. Hill was there in command, and estimates the entire rebel force at 40,000, which I don't believe. Hill, with the rest of his force, moved toward Goldsborough.

A. C. RHIND,
Commander.

NEW BERNE, *March 13, 1865.*

Major-General COX:

I have been exerting myself to-day to get another expedition up the river in the Ella May and Shrapnel, but obstacles are put in my way in regard to my getting those boats. I am informed this evening by Major Wherry, aide-de-camp, that the boats cannot be furnished me without orders from the commanding general of the department. If you require me to co-operate again with you, a positive order must be sent to transfer the two steamers to me entirely. I intended to fit a torpedo on the Ella May, and I think the people in those boats don't fancy the trip. I have men who do.

A. C. RHIND,
Commander.

[Indorsement.]

Will General Schofield please answer this dispatch?

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 4. } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT, *Wise's Forks, N. C., March 13, 1865.*

This command will move upon Kinston to-morrow morning in the following order, viz:

The cavalry, under command of Colonel Savage, will move promptly at 6 a. m. by the British road to the Wilmington and Kinston road, crossing the Southwest Creek, near Mrs. Williams', and covering the left flank of the command as it approaches the Neuse River. General Palmer's division, and the cavalry detachment operating upon the right flank, will move at 7 a. m. by the railroad and the Neuse road to the river crossing. General Carter's division will move upon the Dover road at 7 a. m., followed by the division of General Ruger.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 8. } HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT, *In the Field, N. C., March 13, 1865.*

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II. The Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, now with the brigade of Colonel Boughton, will at once join its proper brigade, the commanding officer reporting to Brigadier-General Harland for orders.

* * * * * * *

VI. In accordance with orders from district headquarters, this command will move toward Kinston to-morrow at 7 a. m. by the railroad and the Neuse road to the river crossing, and in the following order, viz: The cavalry under command of Maj. Floyd Clarkson, Twelfth New York Cavalry (including the command of Captain Graham), will move first, throwing out a small advance guard. This will be followed by the brigade of General Harland, his battery of Napoleons following immediately after his infantry. The Third Brigade, Col. H. Boughton commanding, will follow next in column. Immediately in his rear will march the Third Battery* of the Second Brigade. The Second Brigade,

*Probably Battery C, Third New York Light Artillery.

Col. P. J. Claassen commanding, will follow next. All the wagons of the division will move in rear of the last brigade, the commanding officer of which will detail a strong rear guard to bring up the rear after all the wagons. This officer will be charged to see that all the stragglers are arrested and sent to their regiments when the command halts for the day. He will well deploy his men and sweep the country on both sides of the road. There must be no straggling and no pillaging in the track of the First Division.

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By command of Brigadier-General Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 13. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 23D ARMY CORPS,
Wise's Forks, N. C., March 13, 1865.

Brigade commanders will have their respective commands in readiness to move promptly at 7 a. m. to-morrow in the following order, viz: First, Colonel Orr's brigade; second, Colonel Thomas' brigade; third, Colonel McQuiston's brigade; fourth, Captain Paddock's battery; fifth, Captain Wood's battery; sixth, ammunition and baggage train. Colonel McQuiston, commanding Second Brigade, will detach one regiment as rear guard to march in rear of the train.

By order of Brig. Gen. T. H. Ruger:

HENRY A. HALE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Wise's Forks, March 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. N. COUCH,
Comdg. Second and Third Divisions, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: General Cox will endeavor to effect a crossing of the Neuse at Kinston to-morrow morning. You will please move up on the Dover road and keep within supporting distance of General Cox's left. If the enemy be found in force on the opposite bank, General Cox will simply make a demonstration at and above Kinston, while I reconnoiter for a crossing below and get up the pontoons. If it prove necessary to use the pontoon bridge you will make the crossing. I will inform you as soon as the point of crossing is selected. I have directed Colonel Twining to call on Captain Lyon for teams to haul the pontoons from the railroad terminus to the river.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., March 13, 1865.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding U. S. Forces, Wilmington:

GENERAL: Captain Young tells me he will send down to-night a courier. I avail myself of the opportunity to say that the bulk of my

army is across Cape Fear River, and I will cross over to-morrow and await the return of the Davidson, in hopes you may be able to send us up some clothing and small stores. But on Wednesday I hope to make ten miles out, but will hold empty wagons for any supplies you may send up. Expect a train of refugees and negroes at Wilmington via Clinton. They are a dead weight to me, and consume our supplies. Provide for them the best you can or send them to New York in the return vessels. The gun-boat Eolus is here and will remain till I take my departure, and I will send word to you when to dispatch all vessels in Cape Fear River with supplies for me up to New Berne. Prosecute your work on the railroad from Wilmington north as fast as possible, and notify Colonel Wright to get from Savannah or Norfolk a supply of locomotives and cars suited to that gauge. We are all very well and weather is most favorable.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., March 13, 1865.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Wilmington, &c.:

GENERAL: Lieutenant Stimson of your staff has just arrived, and I send him down to General Howard's camp, two miles below town, with orders to fill the boat with refugees at our lower pontoon and dispatch her back at once. I wrote you fully by the Davidson last night, and to day by Captain Young, and now repeat that the bulk of my army is across Cape Fear River and will be all across to-morrow, Tuesday, and will on Wednesday draw out ten miles toward Goldsborough. On Thursday will cast off and march compactly for a point on the railroad from Faison's to Neuse River. If I don't encounter Schofield's people I will communicate with him in the direction of Goldsborough before attempting to cross the Neuse. My letters are very full. I do want shoes and stockings, but fear you can't spare any, or that you have no boats suitable for the navigation of the river, but I will await Wednesday to receive anything you may send, when I will evacuate here and move in force toward Goldsborough and New Berne. The gun-boat Eolus will be here till I am off. All well and in splendid spirits. Fayetteville arsenal is in ruins and to-morrow fire will consume all that can be burned of it. The town is poor and scattered and will not be materially damaged. Hardee moved off toward Raleigh but will have time to get to Goldsborough, if that be the point fixed for concentration. I expect to be at or near Faison's Depot next Sunday.

Yours, truly, &c.,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., Monday, March 13, 1865.

General TERRY,
Commanding, Wilmington:

GENERAL: Colonel Kerwin reports from Elizabeth, where he has halted his regiment, having dispatched two officers and fifty men through with your cipher dispatch, which is now being unravelled. I

wish you would send a boat up to Elizabeth with forage and rations for Colonel Kerwin's command and order him to ferry his command across and to push to the railroad and up it till he encounters me about Faison's. Your own command should also move at once up toward Goldsborough, leaving the railroad construction party to follow, as the whole country south of Goldsborough between the Cape Fear River and the sea will be covered by our armies. You may be short of wagons. If you can manage to reach me I will supply you with, say, 200. I will have enough wagons for General Schofield also. I want to concentrate all my available forces about Goldsborough as soon as possible. The single road from New Berne to Goldsborough may not have a capacity sufficient for mine, yours, and General Schofield's armies, and I wish you to advise General Schofield that I expect him to get boats as quick as possible that will enable us to use the Neuse River as auxiliary as high up as possible, when our wagons can haul forage and stores. I have with me, say, 3,000 wagons and near 40,000 animals, about 65,000 fighting men.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—If General Schofield wants you at New Berne, I do not object to your re-enforcing him, but I want all the troops not absolutely necessary for garrisons to be at or near Goldsborough in seven days, viz, by Monday or Tuesday of next week.

SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL CORPS, DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, N. C., March 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi, &c.:

GENERAL: I forwarded to you day before yesterday the inclosed dispatch from General Schofield.* I send it to you again for fear that it may not have reached you. At the time this dispatch was written General Couch had not joined him. I think that Couch's and McLean's divisions must have crossed the Trent near Trenton yesterday, and that to-day they have effected a junction with Cox and Palmer.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL CORPS, DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, N. C., March 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Comdg. Military Div. of the Mississippi, Fayetteville, N. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of yesterday. I regret to say that all the supplies of shoes and clothing destined for your main army are at Beaufort. Everything which we had here has been expended for the paroled prisoners which we have received. Two days ago I sent to Beaufort for 3,500 pairs of shoes for my own troops. Should they arrive in time to reach you at

* See Schofield to Sherman, 9th, p. 744.

Fayetteville, I will forward them at once. Hoping that the tug would find the river open, I commenced loading a steamer last night with such stores as I supposed that you would need most. She starts immediately, and will be followed by others. I sent all my serviceable cavalry up the right bank of the Cape Fear day before yesterday afternoon, to open the road and communicate with you. I have a report from them that the bridges are down, and some of the road under water. I send to-day a bridge equipage, and two regiments of infantry, to make a crossing at Levison Creek, seventeen miles from here, which is, I believe, the most difficult point on the route. I respectfully suggest, that if the cavalry should report to you that the upper part of the road is in good order, the refugees, of whom you wish to disembarrass yourself, might come down under their convoy. Our supplies of commissary stores are quite limited, but everything which we have will be sent up as fast as possible. When General Schofield left here a week since he told me that a railroad construction party would be here within a day or two, but none has yet arrived, and consequently nothing has yet been done to repair the road from here to Goldsborough. Two bridges within ten miles of the town were burned by the enemy. I think that I can rebuild one of them with details from my own troops, and will make a beginning, without waiting for the railroad men.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 57.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL CORPS, DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, N. C., March 13, 1865.

I. Brevet Major-General Ames, commanding Second Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps, will detail from his command two regiments of not less than 600 men for duty, to report in heavy marching order at the market place in Wilmington at 11 a. m. this day, with three days' rations in their haversacks. The senior officer will report at these headquarters for instructions at 10 a. m.

* * * * * * *

III. Maj. H. V. Slosson, commanding detachment Fifteenth New York Volunteer Engineers, will proceed with the pontoon train under his charge to Levison Creek on the west bank of the Cape Fear River and throw a bridge over the creek at the point where the road to Elizabethtown crosses it, remaining at that point until furthers orders.

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By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEWPORT, *March 13, 1865.*

General EASTON,
Chief Quartermaster Military Division of the Mississippi:

I am ordered to report to you with two additional regiments of my brigade. Unless otherwise ordered will go into camp outside the works near my other regiments.

NICHOLAS W. DAY,
Col., Comdg. Third Brig., Second Div., Nineteenth Army Corps.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
No. 64. } *Hilton Head, S. C., March 13, 1865.*

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II. The One hundred and forty-fourth New York Volunteers are hereby relieved from duty in the Northern District, Department of the South, and will proceed without delay to Hilton Head, S. C. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

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V. The Thirty-second U. S. Colored Troops is hereby relieved from duty in the Northern District, Department of the South, and will return without delay to their camp on Edisto Island, S. C. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

THORNDIKE D. HODGES,
Capt., Thirty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 13, 1865.

Brig. Gen. J. P. HATCH,
Comdg. Northern Dist., Dept. of the South, Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to inform you that he has to send three regiments of white troops from your command to Wilmington, N. C., and wishes an aggregate of about 1,800 men, and suggests as the best regiments the Fifty-fourth and Fifty-sixth New York Volunteers and the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers. If, however, you desire to keep any one of these regiments you are requested to inform these headquarters without delay of the change you make. The regiments must be put in readiness for immediate embarkation. The transportation will be sent to you as soon as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 13, 1865.

Col. STEWART L. WOODFORD,
Comdg. Post of Charleston, Dept. of the South, Charleston, S. C.:

COLONEL: I desire to state for your information that it is not the policy of this department to foster the commercial interests of the city of Charleston, and that the only trade which it is desirable to encourage and protect there is simply that which is necessary to supply the necessities of the inhabitants, and prevent their becoming a source of expense to the United States. The permanent garrison for Charleston will not exceed 2,500 men, that being a sufficient force in my judgment to preserve quiet in the city and hold the forts and approaches which command it. The accumulation of large quantities of merchandise at that point is therefore to be carefully avoided. Indeed, nothing but the necessaries of life should be allowed to come to the place, and in moderate quantities. Without prescribing any special rules for your

guidance I desire to impress upon your attention the importance of keeping a close watch upon trade and the character of the parties allowed to engage in it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. U. S. FORCES, DISTRICT OF SAVANNAH,
Savannah, Ga., March 13, 1865.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, HDQRS. DEPT. OF THE SOUTH.

SIR: I have the honor to report the shipment of the following-named troops on transport Yazoo on the morning of the 12th instant.

Organization.	Officers.	Men.	Servants.	Horses.
Headquarters Second Division	8	31	4	8
Headquarters Second Brigade	4	18	2	.....
28th Iowa Volunteers	7	136	5	.....
131st New York Volunteers	12	239	7	23
22d Iowa Volunteers	17	338	10	.....
13th Connecticut Volunteers	11	262	6	.....
Total	59	1,024	34	31

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. GROVER,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, opposite Fayetteville, Tuesday, March 14, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point:

DEAR GENERAL: I am now across Cape Fear River with nearly all my army, save a division, with orders to cross at daylight to-morrow. I shall then draw out ten miles and begin my maneuvers for the possession of Goldsborough, which is all important to our future purposes. I was in hopes that I could get some shoes and stockings at Wilmington, but the tug Davidson has returned with Brigadier-General Dodge, chief quartermaster, with word that there is no clothing there, but he brings us some forage, sugar, and coffee. I can get along for ten days, having forced the army to collect plenty of beef, and a good deal of corn meal. I shall to-night move my cavalry, 5,000, straight toward Raleigh, and follow it with four divisions without trains, and keep the trains off toward the right rear. I will hold another four divisions in close support and move toward Smithland [Smithfield] or to strike the railroad half way between Goldsborough and Raleigh; then when my trains are well across toward the Neuse will move rapidly to Bennettsville [Bentonville], and afterward, at leisure, move opposite Goldsborough, open direct communication with Schofield, who is ordered to push against Kinston and Goldsborough. I may cross Neuse, about Cox's Bridge, and move into Goldsborough, but will not attempt it till within close communication with Schofield. I have sent full orders to Schofield. It will not do to build any determinate plan from there till I am in full possession of Goldsborough. I have ordered

Schofield and Terry to press toward Goldsborough as hard as possible from the east as I advance from the southwest. The enemy is superior to me in cavalry, but I can beat his infantry man for man, and I don't think he can bring 40,000 men to battle. I will force him to guard Raleigh till I have interposed between it and Goldsborough. Weather is now good, but threatens rain. We are all well. Keep all parts busy and I will give the enemy no rest.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, opposite Fayetteville, March 14, 1865—7 p. m.

Maj. Gen. O. O. HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: I think I have studied the problem of the next move and will give you, in confidence, its analysis. We must make a strong feint on Raleigh, and strike with cavalry, if possible, the road near Smithfield. I take it for granted that the bridge will be too strongly guarded for Kilpatrick to surprise, and therefore I will leave him to disable that road, of course only partially, between the Neuse and Eureka. To this end the cavalry will move to-night across the bridge, beginning at 3 a. m., and will push to-morrow up the plank road to about Averasborough, Slocum following up with four disencumbered divisions to near the forks of the road, moving his trains by a cross road toward Bentonville. The next move will be the cavalry to Elevation, and Slocum will cross Black River. The next move will bring Slocum to Bentonville, and Kilpatrick, supported by a division of infantry, will make a dash for the railroad. This is as far as I will now determine. I want you to be as near in support as possible. I do think it is Johnston's only chance to meet this army before an easy junction with Schofield can be effected. I would like you to have four divisions free to move rapidly to the sound of battle in the direction of Mingo Creek and Elevation, and, at any event, to make a junction by head of column with Slocum at Bentonville. The weather looks bad and I fear we may have swamps about South River. I think it would be well for you to have four divisions to get ahead of Slocum's trains on the direct road from Fayetteville to Bentonville and keeping ahead of him about five or six miles so as, in case of action, to come up on his right. I will keep near Slocum, and wish you to keep me thoroughly advised of the position of your troops and trains, and instead of aiming toward Faison's, rather look toward Dead Fields and Everettsville. I think Colonel Garber can give you another boat, in which case you had better send down a load of prisoners of war. Do not fail to clear your columns of the dead weight by sending them via Clinton to Wilmington. I do not expect your head of column to be more than ten miles distant from Fayetteville to-morrow night, but it would be well for a brigade to secure the bridges across South River, if not already done. Schofield and Terry are now fully advised of our whereabouts and have my orders. Their movements will directly co-operate with ours and I propose to make an actual junction before crossing the Neuse, unless events and weather favor a different course.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cade's Plantation, N. C., March 14, 1865—8 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

GENERAL: If I have good luck I expect to have everything over the river to-night, and in order to organize the light column refugee trains, &c., will stretch out on the roads, but will not move my headquarters. I had already issued my orders and moved out one corps before getting General Slocum's suggestion. I therefore proposed to him to send Logan's surplus trains on lower route through Clinton, and have his surplus trains follow the four light divisions along the road via Beaman's Cross-Roads. This will open the direct road to Bentonville to General Slocum for his light column, and I will have a good force always within supporting distance. He did not send me word whether this was satisfactory. We have, however, interchanged our respective orders of march.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 60.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cade's Plantation, N. C., March 14, 1865.

I. As soon as everything is well across Cape Fear River the command will move forward in the following order: The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will move on the road leading to Faison's Depot via Beaman's Cross-Roads. The divisions will move with only the different headquarters and regimental trains and ten ammunition wagons for each division. The remaining supply, ordnance, and other trains will be consolidated and move in rear of the column with sufficient guard. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will move on the road leading to Faison's Depot via Clinton. On the first day's march each head of column will reach and prepare the crossing over South River. A portion of the train from these headquarters will move with the Fifteenth Army Corps. The remainder will move with headquarters Seventeenth Army Corps. The pontoon train will also move with the Seventeenth Army Corps.

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V. In accordance with instructions from headquarters Military Division of the Mississippi, all refugees, white and black, now encumbering the army, will be assembled near the headquarters of the Fifteenth Army Corps, with such animals and wagons as can be spared, and organized under the supervision of Col. James Wilson, provost-marshal-general Department and Army of the Tennessee, into a train to proceed to Wilmington, N. C. A guard of fifty men, to be composed of men entitled to discharges or furloughs, properly armed, provided with their papers to take effect at Wilmington, will be sent from each corps. A small supply of flour, bacon, and beef-cattle will be furnished to the train guard.

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By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No 68. } *Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 14, 1865.*

I. In anticipation of the movement on Goldsborough, N. C., all transportation of the several divisions of the corps other than the respective headquarters and regimental teams, twelve ordnance wagons from each division, and the ambulance corps, will be organized in one train, under supervision of the chief quartermaster of the corps, and with a sufficient guard will move in rear of the Seventeenth Army Corps to Faison's Depot, on the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. Corps headquarters supply train will move with this column. Each division commander will detail one regiment for train guard, to report to Brevet Brigadier-General Woods, whose brigade is assigned to the duty of guarding the whole train of the corps. The trains will be organized and the regiments will report to-morrow morning.

II. The troops will move in light order, with five days' rations, two of which will be carried in the regimental wagons.

III. All refugees, white and black, will be organized in detachments by divisions, and will report in such organization to Maj. Frank C. Gillette, provost of the corps. They will be supplied with means of transportation and subsistence, and will move to the point of rendezvous as soon as their camp may be established. All unauthorized camp followers will be included in the term "refugee," and will be swept from the corps and sent to Wilmington in the train organized.

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By order of Maj. Gen. John A. Logan:

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
East side Cape Fear River, near Pontoon Crossing, March 14, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that, in compliance with your instructions, I moved out about 2 o'clock this p. m., following the Third Division. I did not succeed in getting the pontoon bridge until 10 o'clock this p. m., and my command is still crossing (12 m.), going into camp about one mile from the river. I will not be over before 2 o'clock in the morning.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. 1ST DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 46. } *Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 14, 1865.*

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III. In compliance with Special Orders, No. 68, headquarters Fifteenth Army Corps, of to-day's date, all the transportation of the division, except the respective headquarters and regimental teams, twelve ordnance wagons, and the ambulance train, will organize into one train to-morrow and unite with the trains of the army corps that, under the supervision of Lieutenant-Colonel Fort, march in rear of Seventeenth Corps.

IV. All refugees, both white and black, in the command will be organized into detachments under the direction of Capt. George A. Henry, provost-marshal at these headquarters. He will cause them, when so organized, to report to Maj. Frank C. Gillette, provost-marshal of the corps. Captain Henry will also furnish transportation for the refugees connected with this division (in all 133), and to that end all wagons, buggies, and vehicles of every description that have been captured during the campaign that are now with the division, together with their animals, will be turned over to him by brigade and detachment commanders at an early hour to-morrow morning. During the coming move regiments will be allowed but one regimental wagon.

V. The division commissary will issue to the troops of the command early to-morrow morning three days' rations of bread, to last five [days], and the usual rations of sugar, coffee, &c. He will issue to the refugees of the division three days' rations of meal, one day's salt meat, two days' pork, and four days' rations of meat on the hoof. His cattle will be driven with the infantry column.

VI. Lieut. J. W. Phillips, commanding division pioneer corps, will direct Lieutenant Shafer to report with one-half the corps to-morrow morning to Brevet Brigadier-General Woods, commanding First Brigade, apportioning to him such teams and tools as he may need in assisting our train through toward Faison's Depot.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. C. R. Woods:

FRED. H. WILSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 14, 1865.

Major-General HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: At the suggestion of Major-General Howard the general commanding requests that you will perfect the organization of your refugees into detachments, in order that the first opportunity offering may be seized to send them to Wilmington. We may be able to ship them, but fear that they will have to march.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 14, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that this division broke camp in front of Fayetteville to-day at 3.30 p. m.; moved to the lower pontoon bridge, where it commenced crossing at 5 p. m. It is now encamped one mile and a half east of that bridge. My headquarters are in the midst of the camp. The daily reports due, referred to in a note of this date, will be furnished as soon as they can be made up.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Warsaw Road, N. C., March 14, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command moved at 3 p. m. Halted at Cape Fear River one hour, then crossed on pontoon bridge. At this point the refugees, surplus negroes, and animals were left behind. The command moved out to the Warsaw road two miles, where camped, having marched four miles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 14, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this division broke camp on plank road two miles west of Fayetteville at 11 this a. m. and moved, crossing Cape Fear River on pontoon bridge, out on Goldsborough road one mile east of Fayetteville. The column commenced crossing the river at 5.30 p. m. The rear guard passed over at 8.45 p. m. Much delay was caused by the rapid falling of the water. The command is encamped in line on north side of the road, fronting east. These headquarters are on the south side of the road, and opposite the right flank of the division.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Cape Fear River, N. C., March 14, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the movements of my division this instant: Pursuant to orders from corps headquarters, I broke camp at daylight, moving to the pontoons across Cape Fear River, which I found, at 9 a. m., still occupied by the Seventeenth Army Corps, and undergoing repairs. I did not succeed in getting possession of the bridge until 12.30 p. m., at which hour my command commenced crossing, and encamped for the night nearly in rear of the Seventeenth Army Corps, about two miles distant from the river. Owing to the great number of refugees traveling with my command, exceeding 1,100, who have been subsisted during past twenty-three days, besides the draft upon my stores for four days' rations during their transit to Wilmington, I find the supplies of my division reduced to something like eight days' on hand, including four of hard bread. A portion of my hard bread became damaged during the storm on the night of the 9th instant.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 43.

HDQRS. 4TH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, on Cape Fear River, N. C.,
March 14, 1865.

* * * * * * *

II. The troops of this division will march at 9 a. m. to-morrow, the 15th instant, in the direction of Beaman's Cross-Roads, the First Brigade in advance, followed by the Second Brigade, the Third Brigade in rear and closing the column. Trains as follows: Twelve wagons of ordnance, followed by ambulances and hospital train, with brigade trains in rear of hospital train, in same order as brigades. Headquarters teams of the division will enter the column of trains wherever they may strike it; pioneer wagons in rear of all trains. The supply train and surplus ordnance will remain in park in charge of Captain Benjamin, acting assistant quartermaster, under guard of the Thirty-ninth Iowa Infantry, already detailed for that purpose, ready to join the column to move in rear of the Seventeenth Corps. The officer in command of guard will report to Colonel Fort, chief quartermaster of the corps, the position of the park early in the morning. Troops will march by the side of the trains, as heretofore, with two regiments as an advance and two as a rear guard.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ILLINOIS,
In the Field, N. C., March 14, 1865.

Major WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I would respectfully state that the Seventh Illinois is encamped one mile from the Cape Fear River, on right-hand side of road from pontoon bridge. At 1 p. m. moved out on the Goldsborough road with Twenty-ninth Missouri. Ten miles out came upon a squad of rebel cavalrymen, who fired upon our advance and retreated. Followed them for two miles, but found nothing to stop our advancing; 6 p. m. returned and went into camp, in above mentioned localities.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HECTOR PERRIN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Mounted Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 14, 1865.

Lieutenant-Colonel PERRIN,
Commanding Seventh Illinois Mounted Infantry:

COLONEL: I am directed by the general commanding to request you to move your command to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock out on the road leading to Beaman's Cross-Roads, in advance of General Corse, encamping at night with General Corse's division. You will take all your camp equipage, &c., with you.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Cape Fear River, March 14, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say to you that, owing to the change that has been ordered in the movement of the trains, General Logan will not be able to start his column before 9 a. m. to-morrow. The general commanding desires that you push forward with your command to South River, but does not wish you to cross your troops except to make a bridge-head until all the surplus trains ordered to move by the lower road have closed up compactly on your command.

The general wishes you to prepare the crossing over South River as soon after you reach that point as possible, but not to cross your command. If you should deem it necessary to throw over a portion of your corps in order to make a bridge-head and secure the crossing, of course you would do so.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. E. STRONG,
Assistant Inspector-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 65. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 14, 1865.

The command will move to South River, on the Clinton road, to-morrow. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will have the advance and will move forward at 7 a. m. Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will follow the First Division. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will follow the Fourth Division. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will move out on the road at 6.30 o'clock. The troops will, if practicable, move on the right of the train.

II. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will cause to be detailed from his command fifty men under charge of a good officer for guard to a refugee train to Wilmington. They will report at 6 a. m. to-morrow to Colonel Wilson, provost-marshal-general Department and Army of the Tennessee, at department headquarters near the pontoons. The men will be selected from among those whose term of service has expired, and if General Force has more than fifty of such men he may send not to exceed seventy-five. These men will be provided with their muster-out papers complete, which will be placed in charge of the officer commanding, who will also become responsible for the arms of the men. Upon arriving at Wilmington they will report to Captain Ide, commissary of musters, Department and Army of the Tennessee, or Lieutenant Noyes, assistant commissary of musters, Third Division, Seventeenth Army Corps (one of whom will most probably be there), for muster out. If the above-named officers are not at Wilmington, the officer in command will proceed to New Berne, N. C., with his detachment and there await the arrival of the corps at its destination.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 59. } *Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 14, 1865.*

I. This command will move to South River on Clinton road to-morrow, following First and Fourth Divisions. The First Brigade, Col. C. Fairchild commanding, will have the advance, being prepared to move at 9 a. m. The Fifteenth Ohio Battery, Lieut. L. Bailey commanding, will follow the First Brigade. The Second Brigade, Col. G. F. Wiles, commanding, will follow the battery, detailing one regiment for rear guard. If practicable the troops will move on right of train.

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By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, opposite Fayetteville, March 14, 1865.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: I have notified General Howard that to-morrow night your head of column would be near the cross-roads above Kyle's Landing, the next day across Black River near Mingo, and third day near Bentonville, and have instructed him to have four divisions in easy support, and a little in advance of you, say five or six miles, so that on receiving orders or hearing battle he may come promptly up on your right. I think Colonel Garber can promise you another boat, in which case it would be well to send to Wilmington your prisoners of war. You might leave them to-morrow where the gun-boat lies, two miles below General Howard's bridge, and the guard, if unable to overtake you the day after to-morrow, could follow direct to Bentonville. I want the three first marches to be made with prudence and deliberation. I am willing to accept battle with Johnston's concentrated force, but would not attack him in position until I make junction with General Schofield.

I am, truly, yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
No. 27. } *Fayetteville, N. C., March 14, 1865.*

I. Two divisions of the Twentieth Army Corps, unencumbered by wagons (except headquarters wagons and a sufficient number of infantry ammunition wagons to transport forty rounds per man), will move with three batteries of artillery to-morrow, March 15, to the cross-roads north of Taylor's Hole Creek.

II. Two divisions of the Fourteenth Army Corps, with artillery and wagons as above mentioned, will move to and encamp to-morrow night at Taylor's Hole Creek.

III. The trains of the Twentieth Army Corps, with all the pontoon train not now in use, will be moved in charge of one division by a road, south of the road leading from Kingsbury to Bentonville, to South River, and, if possible, they will encamp on the east side of the river.

All empty wagons of the corps will be left near Fayetteville, for the purpose of bringing forward such supplies as may come to this place prior to the 16th instant.

IV. On the 16th, the unencumbered divisions of both corps will move to a point near Bentonville, the trains of the Twentieth Army Corps being on the same day moved to a point near Troublefield's Store, and the trains of the Fourteenth Army Corps, in charge of Baird's division, being moved to South River on the road taken by the trains of the Twentieth Army Corps.

V. Strong pioneer parties will accompany the wagon trains, but each unencumbered division will take with it one wagon of intrenching tools

By command of Maj. Gen. H. W. Slocum:

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 21. } HDQRS. 14TH ARMY CORPS, *Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 14, 1865.*

The corps will move to-morrow as follows: The First and Second Divisions, accompanied by their artillery, headquarters and regimental wagons, ambulance trains, and a sufficient number of ammunition wagons to transport forty rounds of ammunition, in addition to the forty in the cartridge-boxes (the remainder of the trains being reported by the division quartermasters to Brevet Major-General Baird, commanding Third Division), will march, General Morgan at 9 a. m. and General Carlin at 10 a. m., upon the direct road to Averasborough, in rear of the Twentieth Corps, and will encamp to-morrow night beyond Taylor's Hole Creek, upon ground which will be designated. One wagon, loaded with pioneer tools, will accompany each division. Major Houghtaling, chief of artillery (directing his ammunition train to be reported to Brevet Major-General Baird), will move his reserve battery under the direction of General Morgan. Corps headquarters will move with General Carlin's division. General Baird, remaining in Fayetteville, to-morrow will take charge of the trains of the corps, and the following day will move them with his division, as directed in the order from wing headquarters, a copy of which is sent him with this.*

By order of Brevet Major-General J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS, *Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 14, 1865.*

In compliance with orders from headquarters Army of Georgia, all refugees, white and black, that encumber the army are to be sent from this point to Wilmington. Division commanders will therefore at once have their provost-marshals collect all negroes within the limits of their respective commands that are not needed with the column, and turn them over to-day, if possible, to Major Parks, provost-marshal of this corps. Captain Whittelsey will select such wagons, captured or public, as may be necessary for the movement of these people, and turn them over to Major Parks, provost-marshal, to-night. Captain Balloch, chief commissary, will furnish the train with a small supply of flour,

* See next, *ante*.

bacon, and beef-cattle. Each division commander will detail from his command fifteen men, under proper non-commissioned officers, to report to-day to Major Parks, provost-marshal at these headquarters, for duty as guard for these refugees to Wilmington. In making this detail escaped prisoners and men whose term of service has nearly expired will be selected. They will all report with arms and equipments.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 14, 1865.

The Third and First Divisions, with their headquarters trains, will march to-morrow (the Third preceding) across Taylor's Hole Creek. General Ward will start his column at 6.30 a. m., General Jackson starting in season to close up to the Third Division. Each of these divisions will take with them ammunition wagons enough to carry, with what the men carry on their persons, 100 rounds to each man. Each division will take care of its own trains. Three batteries will accompany these divisions, one marching in rear of General Ward's advanced brigade, the other two in rear of the troops of the Third Division. General Geary, with the Second Division, will take charge of the trains of the corps and march them across South River on a road parallel to and south of the Kingsbury and Bentonville road, thence on the day following to the vicinity of Troublefield's Store. One battery of artillery will report to General Geary to march with the train. That portion of the pontoon train not needed for the bridge across Cape Fear River will report to General Geary, at his headquarters, at 8 a. m., to-morrow, to march with this train. In case the Michigan Engineers accompany this corps, one battalion with half of their train will accompany the troops and will march between the Third and First Divisions, immediately in rear of the artillery, starting at 6.30 a. m. The other battalion with the balance of the engineer train will report to General Geary, to march with the train.

General Ward and General Jackson will each take with them one of their brigade pioneer corps and one wagonload of intrenching tools, leaving the balance of their pioneers and tools with their trains. All of the ambulances of the Third and First Divisions that can be emptied will accompany the divisions.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 26. HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 14, 1865.

The forward movement of the army will be resumed to-morrow. For several days the division will be detached, and will march as escort to the entire corps train.

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By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary:

W. T. FORBES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 14, 1865.

Lieut. Col. H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Twentieth Army Corps:

COLONEL: General Cogswell has returned from the reconnaissance ordered this morning. He (General C.), with four regiments, marched on the road to Black River, found Butler's cavalry division at the river, drove them across, but did not attempt to dislodge them, as they had four pieces of artillery, and it would have caused him to engage his line of battle. Lieutenant-Colonel Buckingham, Twentieth Connecticut, with three regiments, marched on the road to Taylor's Hole Creek. Found the enemy at Silver Run Creek, two miles this side of Taylor's Hole. The enemy, two brigades of Wheeler's cavalry, was in barricades. The skirmish line could not dislodge them, and Colonel B. was ordered not to use his line of battle. He says that he could have driven them could he have used his entire force. Casualties, 1 officer wounded, 1 enlisted man killed and 2 wounded.

Very respectfully, &c.,

W. T. WARD,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
March 14, 1865.

General WARD, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: Orders just received from General Sherman state that the cavalry are to commence crossing the pontoon bridge at 3 a. m. to-morrow morning, and that they are to precede our column. Therefore the general commanding directs that you give them the right of way. In case they have not all passed at 6.30 you will have to delay your movement till they pass you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Kinston, March 14, 1865.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: Soon after the capture of Wilmington I received a letter from the Adjutant-General condemning my use of the steamer Spaulding for my quarters, and inclosing an order of the War Department on the subject.* I was not before aware of the existence of such an order. If I had been I hope it is not necessary for me to say that I would not have disobeyed it. When the order was received I had already discontinued the use of the steamer, and did not think it necessary to make any reply to the letter from the Adjutant-General. But I have been informed that the circumstances were misunderstood by you, and I desire simply to place the matter in its proper light. I arrived in Cape Fear River without tents, wagons, and the few wagons there, and even now, in the department were insufficient to haul supplies to the troops. I had no means of living on shore, nor of moving my camp if I had one. Almost constant use of a steamer was a necessity to me. The troops were operating on both sides of the river. I had to keep habitually in

* See Townsend to Schofield, February 23, p. 545.

communication with both columns, and to join either quickly when circumstances required my presence on that part of the field. This could not have been done in any other way than the one I adopted, and even in that way it was very difficult. I was always on shore when important operations were going on only on one side of the river, and often until late at night. On one occasion I rowed ashore a mile in a small boat, and then rode to a distant camp late at night to learn the exact situation and decide upon the next day's operations, thus accomplishing by a hard night's work what I could not have done at all had I been on the other side of the river. It is now certain that the operations of the 21st would have failed instead of resulting in the capture of Wilmington, if I had been with either column, instead of where I could communicate with both in a reasonable time. All the steamers in the harbor were fully occupied except the Spaulding, which was lying idle without a single sick or wounded man on board, and was of no use but to furnish quarters for three assistant surgeons, who had nothing to do but lounge in the steamer's cabin. The only evil resulting from my use of the Spaulding was by depriving the three medical officers of a portion of their superior quarters. It did not in the least divert the steamer from its legitimate use, but on the contrary facilitated its use as a hospital, as it gradually became desirable to so use it, for by keeping it with me as near the troops as possible I was able to, and did, have the wounded brought off in small boats and properly cared for on the steamer immediately after each engagement. My use of the steamer was in violation, though unintentional, of your orders. This I regret, and offer my apologies for it. Had the assistant surgeons in charge of the boat shown the ordinary civilities common among gentlemen, to say nothing of the respect due to a military superior, I would probably not have been left in ignorance of the order I was about to violate. I went aboard of the Spaulding with a single staff officer, cold and sick, after an uncomfortable sea voyage, and after seeking in vain for other quarters. The medical officers on board did not even extend the greeting common among gentlemen, much less invite me to take a seat or bed in their comfortable cabin, but left me to such accommodations as the gentlemanly captain of the vessel was able to furnish out of the small proportion remaining under his control. Under the circumstances I have no regret for the slight inconvenience caused them, and which they have made the occasion of a report to the Surgeon-General, which at least it is fair to presume from the result was not a just statement of the facts. While I do not desire that this explanation be regarded as unofficial, I wish to be understood as making it purely out of regard for your good opinion personally, and to show you that I have not intentionally disregarded your orders, nor done anything prejudicial to the public interests.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Kinston, March 14, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States, City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I occupied Kinston this morning without opposition. The bridge across the Neuse is burned,

and the iron-clad ram is partially sunk, and is still burning. The enemy left two heavy guns and a large amount of ammunition in the works at the bridge. These works are as formidable as any I have yet seen. I have ordered up light steamers from New Berne with supplies, and have put a large force upon the railroad to help the construction corps to push the road through as rapidly as possible.

My present information is that the enemy is moving his stores from Goldsborough to Raleigh, and preparing to concentrate all his force at that place. The general impression is that Sherman is moving from Fayetteville straight for Raleigh, and no doubt that will be the appearance, at least, of his movement. It is probable that I can occupy Goldsborough at any time when I can supply myself there. Yet the enemy will doubtless renew the attempt he made on the 8th and 10th as soon as I get near enough for Johnston to strike me with his combined forces and then recover his position in front of Sherman. This I will have to look out for, and yet I must push the enemy all I can, to diminish the resistance in Sherman's front. My aim will be to occupy Goldsborough about the 20th instant, and then open communication with Sherman. This will be easy, if he, after threatening Raleigh, marches rapidly for Goldsborough, as seems to be his plan. Bragg had here Hoke's division, Lee's corps, and a part of Stewart's corps—I think about 15,000 men. The remainder of Johnston's army, including Hardee's force, I presume to be in front of Sherman. The whole, I suppose, amounts to about 30,000, if Lee has not sent any troops from Richmond recently. Terry is ordered to join me with such force as can be spared from Wilmington, as soon as he can get wagons enough to bring him through, but he will hardly reach me before I unite with Sherman. I apprehend the greatest difficulty will be the matter of supplies. We can hardly do more than get the railroad done to Kinston by the 20th. How much damage is done beyond this place I have not learned, but it is no doubt considerable. If Sherman reaches Goldsborough by the 20th he will probably have to send his wagons to Kinston for supplies. I have barely teams enough to haul supplies for my troops three or four miles, and have to use the same teams to haul my pontoon train. I have not yet been able to get the latter to the river, but had to repair the trestle-bridge before I could cross. Under these circumstances it seems impossible to make my junction with Sherman beyond Goldsborough in any event, and I think I am right in making the reconstruction of the road the primary object instead of trying to push forward my troops more rapidly than the road progresses. A few days ago General Hoke sent a proposition to General Cox to exchange prisoners, which, by my direction, the latter declined. I do not understand that I am authorized to deliver prisoners, although I am to receive them; and there are important reasons why it should not be done here. But I respectfully request to be informed of your wishes on the subject.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., Tuesday, March 14, 1865.

Major-General SCHOFIELD, *Commanding at New Berne:*

GENERAL: I am now across Cape Fear River, and to-morrow shall draw out ten miles, and next day, if weather is favorable, will begin to maneuver on Goldsborough. I shall feign strong on Raleigh by approaching, and, it may be, striking the railroad half way between

Goldsborough and Raleigh; then, as soon as the wagons are well toward Faison's, will swing rapidly in front of Goldsborough, but will not cross the Neuse till I hear from you. You must push vigorously toward Kinston and Goldsborough with the absolute certainty that I will engage the attention of Joe Johnston's army to the west and southwest of Goldsborough. Let the railroad construction party push its work at least as far as Kinston. I want you to draw up Terry's force also, either by water or by a land march. The latter will be best. On making a junction, I can spare General Terry 200 wagons and you 300. I think we have transportation enough for 100,000 men. Be sure to accumulate food for my army, and especially clothing. Tell General Easton we will need at least 100,000 suits of clothing. Our animals are in good condition, and have been accustomed to a full ration of fodder. They will wail piteously if put on a mere grain ration. If not delayed much at Goldsborough we can soon gain a good fodder country. You must now push as boldly as possible straight on Goldsborough, and I will do the same. Joe Johnston may try to interpose, in which case we must strike him as near at the same time as possible. If he crosses Neuse to the south you must do the same, but I think he will await us at Goldsborough or Raleigh, and I hope, at both. Consolidate your command at once into an army, the Center of this. General Howard has the Right Wing, and General Slocum the Left. You can have Terry's troops, but I want the detachments that belong to this army to join their respective brigades as quick as possible. I understand that Meagher's division is composed wholly of detachments that belong to the corps now with me—Fifteenth, Seventeenth, Fourteenth, and Twentieth. I will want to give Kilpatrick as much cavalry as possible, as he has a heavy load to carry. He has to look out for Hampton, Wheeler, and Butler, all accounted first class men. I take it for granted that Joe Johnston has now S. D. Lee's corps, 4,000; Cheatham's, 5,000; Hoke's, 8,000; Hardee's, 10,000, and detachments about 10,000—37,000, with near 8,000 cavalry. Our duty is to effect a junction south of Neuse, but if you can get Kinston whilst Johnston is engaged with me, do so, and push on toward Goldsborough. I will attack the Raleigh road. Get your supplies as far forward as possible, that I may quickly replenish.

I am, yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Fayetteville, N. C., March 14, 1865.

General DODGE,
Chief Quartermaster, Wilmington (Present):

DEAR SIR: I am compelled to clear my camps of refugees, white and black, that have clung to us during our march through South Carolina, and have ordered Major Windsor's One hundred and sixteenth Illinois to gather them and conduct them, with such means as we can spare, to Wilmington. I hardly know myself what numbers will go, and what proportions are able-bodied, but fear they are all helpless. You may send all blacks to General Rufus Saxton, at Beaufort, S. C., and all whites not absorbed by the usual demand you may send in return chartered vessels to New York, consigned to the commissioners of emigration.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

KINSTON, *March 14, 1865.*

Brigadier-General SCHOFIELD,
New Berne:

Get the strength, organization, and names of commanders of the troops arriving from the south as fast as they arrive and inform me. Have all that are not required at Morehead and New Berne made ready to come to the front. They can come by rail as far as it will not interfere with the construction of the road, and then march. Let all wagons for the front march from New Berne with suitable guards, and bring light loads of supplies for the troops. I have telegraphed General Terry to march the main body of his troops to this place.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

KINSTON, *March 14, 1865.*

Brigadier-General SCHOFIELD,
New Berne:

The enemy has abandoned Kinston, and we will cross the river as soon as bridge can be put across. Send up the supply boats at once. Let them move together and each have a strong guard.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

KINSTON, *March 14, 1865.*

Colonel WRIGHT,
New Berne:

I have ordered a detail of 2,000 men to cut ties to-morrow, and will also furnish men and teams to assist in getting out timber for the railroad bridge.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, *March 14, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD:

Your dispatch is received. I have notified Mr. Smeed to have a force of bridge builders ready to move to the river as soon as the wagons arrive at Dover Station to haul up the tools, &c. I will telegraph him at once about the teams for hauling bridge timber, and of the force sent to cut ties. The third division of the construction corps, 600 strong, has arrived at Morehead and will go to the front to-morrow. This is a great help to me, and I feel confident of getting through in time.

W. W. WRIGHT,
Colonel and Chief Engineer.

KINSTON, *March 14, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. L. C. EASTON,
Morehead City:

General Gillmore wants steamers to transport troops of General Sherman's army from Hilton Head. He also wants a cargo of coal. Please send them if you can, and inform me. Also let a boat run to Wilmington at once with the dispatches I send for General Terry.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

MOREHEAD, *March 14, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

I have no steamers that I can send to Hilton Head for troops. Will probably be able to send some in a few days if any come in from the North. What number of troops are there to come from Hilton Head? Have no coal that I can send to General Gillmore. Will send your dispatches to Wilmington as soon as received.

L. C. EASTON,
Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., March 14, 1865.

Lieutenant NELSON,
Commanding Army Gun-boat Shrapnel:

LIEUTENANT: The major-general commanding desires that you have your boat in readiness to start up the Neuse River at daylight to-morrow morning as convoy to steamers Ella May and General Shepley. You will be expected to go as far as Kinston. Further orders will be sent you during the night.

Very respectfully,

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 29. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO, *New Berne, N. C., March 14, 1865.*

I. The commanding officer of the Thirteenth Connecticut Infantry, with his regiment, will to-night go on board the steamers Ella May and General Shepley and proceed with them to Kinston, N. C., acting as guards. The commanding officer of the regiment will see that his officers and men are at all times on the alert, keeping sharp lookout for guerrilla bands on the banks of the stream. The boats will be convoyed by the army gun-boat Shrapnel. Five days' rations will be drawn before starting.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Kinston, N. C., March 14, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding District of Beaufort:

GENERAL: You will please detail from your command 1,000 men with from 200 to 300 axes to cut railroad ties and distribute them along the track. They will commence where the road strikes the Neuse and work southward toward New Berne. Let the work be commenced early in the morning and pushed with vigor. The ties are to be cut from eight to nine feet long, seven inches thick, and with faces not less than five inches broad. They are to be distributed along the railroad at the rate of one tie to every two feet of track.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

KINSTON BRIDGE, *March 14, 1865.*

Capt. A. C. RHIND,
Commanding Naval Forces, New Berne:

I sent your dispatch of last evening to General Schofield, and supposed till an hour ago that he had answered it. We are at the Kinston bridge. The ram is burnt; her wreck is in sight. The torpedo will not, therefore, be needed, but we are equally obliged to you for your offer to rig it. A convoy for the steamers and flats, loaded with rations, is the only thing which can be of service to us now. There is no force of the enemy now in our immediate front except some cavalry, the remainder of the force which Bragg had the other day having gone toward Goldsborough. Their rear guard of infantry is reported to be at Falling Creek, seven miles from Kinston, injuring the railroad as they retire.

Very respectfully,

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding District.

U. S. STEAMER AGAWAM,
New Berne, March 14, 1865.

Major-General COX:

Your dispatch is just received. A small gun-boat, drawing seven feet, and with a heavy battery, arrived here this morning. I am getting her ready for a trip to Kinston. Will send up some boats with her. The only difficulty I have now is the want of a good pilot. I have asked for the man who went up before. Hope to get the gun-boat off this evening. She has a 100-pounder rifle and three 24-pounders. If the quartermaster's department or harbor master here furnish me the pilot you will find the boats up the river to-morrow.

Respectfully, yours,

A. C. RHIND,
Commander.

KINSTON, *March 14, 1865.*

Capt. A. C. RHIND,
Commanding Naval Forces:

I will telegraph the harbor master to get you a good pilot immediately, if possible. Reports, apparently reliable, show that the enemy have left Goldsborough also and that Bragg has joined Johnston at Smithville [Smithfield], half way between Goldsborough and Raleigh. Sherman is approaching Goldsborough and we hope to have communication open with him in a few days.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

KINSTON, *March 14, 1865.*

Captain LOWMAN,
Harbor Master, New Berne:

Try to find a river pilot for Captain Rhind, of the Navy, and have him report to bring up a gun-boat. Make every effort to do this to-night.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding District.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Kinston, N. C., March 14, 1865.

Colonel STEWART,
Commanding Post, New Berne:

SIR: You will please order all cavalrymen that are now at the rear (in New Berne, Fort Anderson, &c.) that can possibly be equipped for field service to report without delay at these headquarters.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS, *Near Kinston, N. C., March 14, 1865.*

In compliance with Special Orders, No. 35, headquarters First Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, of this date, I hereby assume command of this brigade. The staff of the brigade for the present will remain as now organized.

I. N. STILES,
Brevet Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Kinston, N. C., March 14, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. N. COUCH,
Comdg. Second and Third Divisions, 23d Army Corps:

GENERAL: You will please detail a force of 1,000 men, with the proper proportion of officers, to cut railroad ties and distribute them along the track. The party should be furnished with from 200 to 300 axes. The ties should be cut from eight to nine feet long, seven inches thick, and with faces not less than five inches broad. They are to be distributed along the roadbed at the rate of one tie for every two feet of track. Your force is to commence work where the railroad crosses Southwest Creek, and work toward New Berne until it meets the construction corps, and then toward Kinston until it meets the force detailed from General Cox's command. Let the work be commenced early in the morning and pushed with vigor until completed.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, opposite Fayetteville, Tuesday, March 14, 1865.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding, &c., Wilmington:

GENERAL: Quartermaster-General Dodge is now with me, and I have explained many things to him. I want your 9,000 infantry up at Goldsborough as soon as possible. I begin my movement to-morrow and if the weather is at all favorable will be opposite Goldsborough in five days. I think your best plan is to move up as light as possible by the best road. When you effect a junction I can supply you 200 wagons.

Until we get Goldsborough reduced to possession and its railroad down we will not have much marching. General Schofield should push his railroad from New Berne, and your branch should be kept moving as fast as possible. Colonel Wright has but a limited force, but I will write to General Schofield to send some of Colonel Wright's foremen and also one or two regiments of negro troops as laborers. As I approach the road, the enemy will doubtless remove as much of the iron as he can. I have asked Captain Young to keep up an active movement along Cape Fear River to make Joe Johnston believe that I have resupplied my wagons and can stand a thirty days' campaign. I shall feign strong on Raleigh, but actually approach Goldsborough, but will not attempt Goldsborough till I have Kinston and the railroad bridge across the Neuse, so that I can draw supplies from New Berne, on the north bank of the Neuse. That once done, I think I can get Goldsborough quick. I may, however, do so at once, according to appearances, as I approach the place. I am much obliged for the supplies, but would suggest that you estimate to keep on hand always 1,000,000 of rations, independent of your own wants. I feel confident that Generals Easton and Beckwith have full supplies for me about New Berne.

I am, truly, yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

KINSTON, *March 14, 1865.*

Major-General TERRY:

I desire such portion of your troops as can be spared from the defense of Wilmington to join me here by a rapid march. The force necessary to be left will depend upon the whereabouts of Hardee. It may be necessary to leave General Paine's division. Of this you must be the judge. Let the troops take the route pursued by General Couch until they cross the Trent, and then take the straight road to Kinston. The march can be made in six days. Send along a considerable body of cavalry, and let them conceal the infantry from the enemy's scouts. I will concentrate your corps here as rapidly as possible.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL CORPS, DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, N. C., March 14, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I have received your letters of the 12th and 13th. I sent you by the steamer Howard yesterday 158,000 rations of coffee—all we had—and all our sugar; by the Lady Lang a load of forage. I send to-day by the Mary Benton 3,800 pairs of shoes and 2,400 pairs of boots. The shoes and boots arrived here this morning from Beaufort, and were intended for my own troops, who are much in need of them; but I suppose the necessities of your main army in this respect are much greater than mine and I therefore send them to you. I also send by the Benton 1,500 boxes of hard bread. We have no clothing of any description here. All the supplies have been sent to Beaufort. When General Couch left here my wagons were taken to supply him. Others are now on transports off the bar, but the vessels are of too heavy draft

to come into the river. I expect to transship and get them up here to-morrow. I cannot start from here until day after to-morrow morning. I think that I can reach Faison's Depot Sunday night. My transportation will be very short and I shall need supplies very soon after reaching Faison's, but I think General Schofield will have wagons to spare and I shall write to him to send them across to me from Kinston with subsistence. I inclose a copy of a dispatch which I received from him this morning.*

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

I have taken the liberty of opening and reading as you were so far away. I will write a note to General Terry. You could get one to the boat before it will leave.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 58. } HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS, DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA, *Wilmington, N. C., March 14, 1865.*

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II. The detachment of the Second Brigade, Second Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps, Lieut. Col. W. B. Coan, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, commanding, and the pontoon detachment, Maj. H. V. Slosson, Fifteenth New York Volunteers, commanding, now at Levison Creek, N. C., will, upon the receipt of this order, return to Wilmington with all possible speed, marching day and night until their arrival at the city.

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IV. The Second Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps, Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. Ames commanding, will move from its encampment at 1 p. m. to-morrow and proceed to Northeast Station, where it will bivouac for the night. The troops will carry upon their persons rations for three days after to-morrow morning, and —— rounds of ammunition.

V. Until further orders, the Sixteenth New York Independent Battery will report to Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. Ames, commanding Second Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps, and Light Company E, Third U. S. Artillery, will report to Brig. Gen. Charles J. Paine, commanding Third Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps.

By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR, No. 17. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *Northeast Station, N. C., March 14, 1865.*

We shall move speedily. But one wagon will be allowed to a regiment for baggage. Brigade headquarters wagons will be cut down also.

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* See 12th, p. 803.

Have your baggage reduced accordingly, and do it to-day. Surplus baggage can be stored in Wilmington. You will send all your wagons in town this afternoon to haul subsistence stores and forage.

By command of Brig. Gen. C. J. Paine:

SOLON A. CARTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Morehead, March 14, 1865.

Brigadier-General SCHOFIELD,
Chief of Staff:

I arrived here this morning with 1,000 men of this division. Am now landing troops, and at suggestion of General Easton leave for New Berne by railroad this p. m.

Respectfully,

H. W. BIRGE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 14, 1865.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: If you will order the quartermaster to have a coal vessel towed here by the Coit and send me one or two steamers it would be of great service at present. Both the tin-clads are broken down. The machinery is partially cog-wheeled, the cogs are broken, and the steamers necessarily useless. The officer in charge of the foundry here will cast new wheels as soon as the molds can be prepared and coal obtained. It is a great pity, for I am told the governor of South Carolina, with a large party of officials, is not far from the Santee, on the Wilmington railroad, waiting the repairing of the bridge over the Wateree. The only steamer I have here is the Anna Maria. One of Colonel Hallowell's brigades has left. I am very sorry I had not your permission to substitute the Twenty-first for the Thirty-third U. S. Colored Troops in time. I send a section of the battery from Beaufort on the Coit, and will send the remainder as soon as transportation can be procured. The One hundred and forty-fourth [New York] and Thirty-second [U. S. Colored Troops] are only waiting transportation. I will set the negroes to work on the fortifications immediately.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 14, 1865.

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant. I have issued instructions for the regiments named by you to be ready to move, and will use every exertion to have them put in serviceable condition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 50.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT,
DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 14, 1865.

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III. Battery A, Third Rhode Island Artillery, now on duty in this district, is hereby relieved, and will proceed to Beaufort, S. C., as early as transportation can be furnished.

IV. The Fifty-fourth and Fifty-sixth New York and the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteer Regiments will be put in readiness for immediate embarkation. All the officers detailed from these regiments will be, if within the limits of this district, relieved and returned to regimental duty. Any equipment necessary to put these regiments in a condition to take the field will be furnished on requisition, which must be immediately forwarded. All surplus supplies not necessary for field service will be turned in, as transportation will be limited, and as the point at which the command will embark is in the vicinity of active operations, trunks, boxes, or furniture will not be taken with the troops.

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By command of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 14, 1865.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. A. S. HARTWELL,
Commanding Brigade, Rackersville, S. C.:

GENERAL: In reply to the information solicited by you in your communication to these headquarters of the 13th in regard to passing citizens into and out of our lines, I am instructed by the brigadier-general commanding to inform you that the following rules will be adhered to in passing citizens out of your lines: No citizen will be allowed to pass out of your lines at any time without a pass emanating from the department or district commanders. In allowing citizens to enter the lines you will observe the following rules: First. Citizens (refugees, &c.) who desire after entering to remain within the lines may be admitted. Second. Those who wish to enter the city for the purpose of taking the oath of allegiance may be admitted (in returning those persons must have a proper pass). Third. Those having permission to enter from department or district commanders will be admitted. I would further state that in passing persons out of the lines the guard has no discretionary power whatever; that contrabands will be governed by same regulations as whites, and that the oath of allegiance or certificate of having taken it is no pass, with the exception of the case of refugees entering the lines. All property carried in or out of the lines must be stated on the pass of the person in charge, or on a separate one.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDGAR B. VAN WINKLE,
Captain, Chief of Staff, and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 14, 1865.

Col. P. P. BROWN,
Commanding U. S. Forces, Georgetown:

COLONEL: I wish you would send an expedition up the Waccamaw River, to land on the east side about fifteen or twenty miles, and sweep the whole country between the river and sea to the point opposite Georgetown. Bring in all the mules and horses suitable for Government use, and get all the recruits you can. If the expedition prove successful, try one up the Black River and sweep the country to the Pedee.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

LOUISVILLE, *March 14, 1865.*
(Received 6.50 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

I have notice that 5,000 will leave here in two or three days from Nashville, destined for New Berne, N. C. To what point on the coast shall I send them? Baltimore, or New York, or elsewhere?

R. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

MARCH 15, 1865.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL:

General Allen has been directed to send the troops here for shipment. Arrangements should be made for transportation over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 15, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The Richmond papers of to-day are received, but they contain no news of interest. The following paragraph from the Examiner is all that is worth telegraphing:*

NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA.

We are still without official dispatches from the army under General Johnston, but the progress of Sherman is evidently embarrassed by difficulties he did not expect, and those Raleigh newspapers which but lately had no doubt that he would occupy Raleigh without opposition, and then go wherever he pleased, have changed their minds. Everything that is known from that quarter is encouraging. There are other military movements on foot, to which it would be premature to allude.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* For portion relating to operations in Virginia, see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 986.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, on the Raleigh Road, March 15, 1865—12 m.
(Received 7 p. m.)

Captain KEYSER,
U. S. Steamer Eolus, Fayetteville:

CAPTAIN: Lest I may not have been sufficiently minute in my request of Captain Young, I will now repeat that I am moving toward Raleigh, but will swing over to Goldsborough. To-night I will be at Kyle's Landing; to-morrow, near the bridge across North River, and the day after near Bentonville. It may be that the enemy will attempt to oppose me, in which case it might become of some importance that I should send orders to Wilmington and Weldon. I therefore ask that the Eolus remain as near Fayetteville as possible, according to the stage of the water, and I think it would be well to have a tug messenger boat. If Captain Young has none to spare, I wish you would write to General Dodge, at Wilmington, saying that I want the army tug to keep moving up and down till it is known that I am at Goldsborough or in communication with General Schofield. I have no doubt, also, that a good many of our sick and footsore men will hang about the landing; they must not be allowed to suffer, though their officers should have provided for them. If you find any such clinging about the landing, have them camp near your boat on this bank, and send word to General Dodge, chief quartermaster, to send a boat for them. I ordered him yesterday to keep boats coming up as long as there seemed a chance of their being needed. If Colonel Garber, my chief quartermaster, is there, show him this letter, and he will attend to the details referred to in the last part of this letter, but if Colonel Garber is not there, I have no other alternative but to ask your kind assistance. I send two couriers with this. Please take charge of them and send them back to me in the morning with any news, letters, or papers you may have. My last New York dates are to the 6th.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cade's Plantation, N. C., March 15, 1865—5.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

GENERAL: General Blair has reached and crossed one division over South River. The enemy had not destroyed the bridge but had a regiment of Jeff. Davis' Legion, Young's division, on the other side. In charging across we had 1 officer (Captain Woodbury, Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry) killed, and 2 men wounded. On the other bank we found 1 rebel dead, and 1 wounded. The prisoners report a brigade at the other crossing—General Logan's. The country seems to be all swampy in that direction. General Corse was within three miles of his crossing at 3 p. m. to-day, and his cavalry at the crossing. The bridge had been burned, but he has probably repaired it by this time. There was a small cavalry force of the enemy on the other bank. There is, as we supposed, a Raleigh road soon after crossing Logan's bridge.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 61.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cade's Plantation, N. C., March 15, 1865.

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II. Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, commanding Fifteenth Army Corps, with the disencumbered divisions of his corps, will cross South River to-morrow and move on the first practicable road leading to the left of the Fayetteville and Bentonville road. The surplus trains of the corps with their guard will continue on the direct road to Beaman's Cross-Roads. Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair, commanding Seventeenth Army Corps, will move via Owensville toward Clinton, awaiting further orders at the forks west of the Great Cohera or Black River. The bridge train will continue with the Seventeenth Army Corps. These headquarters will be established to-morrow night near the leading division of the Fifteenth Army Corps.

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By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
East side of Cape Fear River, near the Pontoon Crossing, March 15, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that while my troops have to-day remained in camp at the point as designated in my report of last night, I have been busily engaged in getting the balance of my train over the pontoon, as my column was cut last night while crossing by General Kilpatrick's cavalry, and I was unable to get the bridge again until to-day. The crossing at this side was very difficult owing to the very steep bank. I managed, however, to get everything across by 4.30 this p. m. Under the direction of Captain Henry, provost-marshal for the division, the refugees and contrabands were sent off from my division this evening.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near South River, N. C., March 15, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command marched at 11 a. m. to-day on the Goldsborough road, and camped at Bethany Church, near South River, in rear of Fourth Division, having marched ten miles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near South River, N. C., March 15, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that, in compliance with orders received, having left all supply trains to follow with the corps train, this command moved from camp near Fayetteville at 2 o'clock this p. m., supplied with five days' rations and 100 rounds of ammunition per man, on main Goldsborough road, and marched, following the Second Division, twelve miles, encamping one mile and a half west of South River between 7 and 8 p. m., on both sides of the road in rear of the Second Division, the infantry in column by regiments, the artillery and trains in the rear. One-half of the pioneer corps was left with the trains. Twenty-three officers and 284 enlisted men, whose term of service had expired, were ordered to guard refugee train to Wilmington, N. C., and upon arrival there to be mustered out of the service. The roads were rendered almost impassable by the heavy rains which fell during all of the afternoon and evening. These headquarters are on the south side of the road, in rear of the right of the Second Brigade.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, South River, N. C., March 15, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that on the 5th instant my command remained in camp at Powe's plantation, near Cheraw, S. C., with the exception of one brigade, which, pursuant to orders from corps headquarters, was sent into the city of Cheraw to relieve a brigade of the Seventeenth Corps doing provost duty.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 44.

HDQRS. 4TH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, South River, N. C., March 15, 1865.

I. The troops of this division will be in readiness to march at 6.30 a. m. to-morrow, the 16th instant, crossing South River. The Second Brigade will hold the advance, followed by the Third Brigade, the First Brigade moving in rear and closing the column. The infantry, with the exception of two regiments in advance and one in rear of trains, will move by the side of trains (to the right); trains the same as to-day, and, under any circumstances, be well closed up. The advance guard will place guards at all occupied houses, remaining until relieved by those of the division following, as directed by existing orders, &c.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cade's Plantation, N. C., March 15, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding has ordered that the surplus trains of the Fifteenth Corps will follow that corps instead of your column, as directed in paragraph IV of yesterday's order. The pontoon train will close up on and follow your corps, and you are directed to furnish a guard of one regiment to accompany it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Cade's Plantation, March 15, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

The general commanding directs me to inform you that the refugee train, containing 6,000 to 8,000 refugees, with a sufficient guard, will follow in the rear of your column, leaving here to-morrow morning and taking the same roads as far as Clinton, and requests me to direct you not to destroy any bridges you may build, and when it becomes necessary to use any pontoon-boats for bridges they will be left until after the refugee train has passed and then be ordered to resume their position in the line of march. The general also requests you to pick up such wagons and teams and accumulate such supplies for the use of the refugees as you may be able to, which will be left at Clinton in charge of your rear guard until the refugee train arrives there. From Clinton the refugee train will march directly south to Wilmington.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES WILSON,
Colonel and Provost-Marshal-General, Army of the Tennessee.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 66. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On South River, N. C., March 15, 1865.

The movement to-morrow will be via Owensborough toward Clinton. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will commence crossing his train to the other side of South River at 6 a. m., and will park it on the other side. The Fourth Division, Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith commanding, will have the advance and will move forward at 8 a. m. The Third Division, Brig. Gen. M. F. Force commanding, will follow the Fourth Division. The First Division, Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower commanding, will follow the Third Division. The detachment of the pontoon train will follow the train of the Fourth Division. The detachment of department headquarters train will follow the Third Division train. The troops will move on the right of the train. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will cross the river at 7.30 a. m., provided the train of the First Division is across by that time. If not, they will follow it.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near South River, N. C., March 15, 1865.

Capt. C. CADLE, Jr.,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Seventeenth Army Corps:

Captain Searle, commanding my pioneer corps, reports that it will be impossible to cross the river with the train of my division without building a bridge about sixty yards long on the other side of the river, as the old road under water has entirely given out and cannot be repaired, the water being too deep and bottom very soft. My pioneer corps has been at work ever since the head of the column moved across. I would respectfully request that a pioneer corps from one of the other divisions be detailed to assist in constructing a bridge to-night. There is no lumber on this side of the river. Everything will have to be carried from the other side. The most of my brigade and regimental wagons are still on the other side of the river. I have given the commanding officer of my pioneer corps directions to let his men get supper.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. MOWER,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding Division.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 60. } *Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 15, 1865.*

I. The movements to-morrow will be in the direction of Owensborough on the Clinton road. The Second Brigade, Col. G. F. Wiles commanding, will have the advance, being prepared to move at 9 a. m. The Fifteenth Ohio Battery, Lieut. L. Bailey commanding, will follow the Second Brigade. The First Brigade, Col. C. Fairchild commanding, will follow the battery, detailing one regiment for rear guard. Troops will move on the right of train. Trains as heretofore.

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By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, 14TH ARMY CORPS,
Fayetteville, N. C., March 15, 1865.

I. All the transportation of the division will be sent immediately to the pontoon bridge to be crossed over the river the moment the bridge is vacant.

II. The troops will begin crossing probably at 10 o'clock, and in anticipation of the movement each brigade commander will arrange his pickets so as to form a strong skirmish line to occupy his present front and remain in charge of a competent officer until withdrawn. The Second Brigade will move first and take position on this side the river covering the bridge. The Third Brigade will then pass over, followed by the First, and both will take position covering the bridge from the opposite shore. The pickets will then be withdrawn, bringing in all guards and stragglers, and all crossed over. The battery will precede the Third Brigade in crossing. No further property of any kind in the city will be destroyed.

By command of Brevet Major-General Baird:

JNO. W. ACHESON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Silver Creek, N. C., March 15, 1865.

This command will move to-morrow in the same order as to-day. General Ward will start one brigade, with his pioneers and tools, at 6 a. m., to precede the main column and repair the roads. The balance of his division will start at 6.30 a. m. The Michigan Engineers and Mechanics and First Division will start in season to close up to the commands that precede them.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Silver Creek, N. C., March 15, 1865.

Brigadier-General JACKSON,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding the corps directs that you send one of your brigades at once to report to General Kilpatrick to support his cavalry command. General Kilpatrick's command is about four miles ahead on the road we have marched on to-day.

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 27. HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 15, 1865.

In the march to-day the order of brigades will be Third, First, Second. The Third Brigade, with a battalion of Michigan Engineers and Sloan's battery, will march in advance disencumbered, and will repair the roads. The other two brigades will cover the train.

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By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary:

W. T. FORBES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEW BERNE, *March 15, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

Troops from Nineteenth Army Corps have arrived as follows: Third Brigade, Second Division, six regiments, all at Morehead; aggregate effective strength, 1,592. Part of Second Brigade, Second Division, four regiments; aggregate effective, 1,007. Three regiments here—one gone as guard to boats with commissary stores. Brig. Gen. H. W. Birge, commanding division.

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

KINSTON, *March 15, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. L. C. EASTON,
Morehead City:

General Sherman's troops are greatly in need of shoes. If you can get a supply here I will send them to him in wagons as soon as com-

munication is opened. What can be done in the matter? I expect to be in communication with him by the 19th or 20th. Can you not get some more light steamers to run up the river to this place? I think there are some at Wilmington which would answer the purpose.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

MOREHEAD CITY, *March 15, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

How much water do you make from New Berne to Kinston, and will it be safe to send small boats up the river? Our railroad facilities are so small I fear General Sherman will have to send his wagons to New Berne for supplies.

L. C. EASTON,
Chief Quartermaster.

MOREHEAD CITY, *March 15, 1865.*

General SCHOFIELD:

Capt. E. W. Williams is here with ammunition for General Sherman's army, and says he is subject to your orders. We want the boat on which the ammunition is stored. Had you not better direct him to store his ammunition at New Berne? I can send the boat there with it.

L. C. EASTON,
Chief Quartermaster.

KINSTON, *March 15, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. L. C. EASTON,
Morehead:

I think light steamers can come to Kinston without difficulty. I have ordered some up from New Berne, and presume they have already started. I hope we will be able to get supplies for General Sherman here by river and railroad together. Captain Williams should by all means store his ammunition at New Berne. I will direct him. I believe store-room there is very limited.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

KINSTON, *March 15, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. L. C. EASTON,
Morehead City:

Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, who has just arrived from Wilmington, informs me that an important dispatch from General Sherman was sent through the quartermaster at Wilmington before he started. It has not been received. Will you see if it can be found and send it to me by a special messenger. It is very important.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, [*March 15,*] *1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD:

The soldiers have done well in getting out cross-ties. If they continue at work to-morrow they will have enough to reach the river.

Unless the weather should be very unfavorable the track will be laid to the bridge on the night of the 18th. The siding will be put in then as soon as the track reaches that point. I ordered an additional force of bridge-builders to the river early to-morrow morning, and if we can get the timber to the road the bridge will not detain us long. One locomotive, narrow gauge, has arrived at Morehead, which I will have unloaded and at work immediately. The axes asked for by Major Cox were not sent forward to-day, because the wires were down and my dispatch did not get through.

W. W. WRIGHT,
Colonel, Chief of Engineers, &c.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, March 15, 1865.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that I have been to Fayetteville, N. C., and have seen General Sherman. He leaves for Goldsborough to-day. I sent him all the coffee and sugar that the commissary had at this depot; also forage. General Sherman informed me that he can spare 500 wagons from his army if necessary. He has sent all of the refugees, white and black, to Wilmington, and has directed me to send the black to General Saxton, at Beaufort, S. C., and all the whites who cannot find employment here to New York. I have furnished General Terry's corps with 129 wagons. He leaves to-day. I shall send supplies up the West Branch of the Cape Fear to [South] Washington. General Sherman is anxious that the work should commence as soon as possible on the railroad. No material yet arrived. General Sherman is well and the army all in good spirits. He will be at Goldsborough, he thinks, on the 21st instant. The armory at Fayetteville was destroyed; also the factories.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

GEO. S. DODGE,
Brevet Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 16. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
New Berne, N. C., March 15, 1865.

I. Surg. D. W. Hand, U. S. Volunteers, is announced as medical director of the Department of North Carolina.

II. Surg. E. Shippen, U. S. Volunteers, medical director of the Twenty-third Army Corps, is announced as acting medical director of the army in the field.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 18. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
New Berne, N. C., March 15, 1865.

I. Lieut. Col. J. F. Boyd, chief quartermaster Twenty-third Army Corps, is hereby announced as acting chief quartermaster of the army in the field.

II. Maj. Frank E. Wolcott, judge-advocate, Army of the Ohio, is hereby announced as acting judge-advocate, Department of North Carolina, Army of the Ohio.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Kinston, N. C., March 15, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding District of Beaufort:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that about half of the cavalry force under your command be ordered to report to General Couch on this side of the river for picket duty.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. A. LORD,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Kinston, N. C., March 15, 1865.

Capt. WILLIAM A. LORD,
Aide-de-Camp, Headquarters Department of North Carolina:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to state, in answer to your letter just received, that two troops of cavalry are now on the other side of the river under command of Major West. The rest of the cavalry are scouting on the Goldsborough and Snow Hill roads some six miles out. They found one torpedo in the road, which exploded and killed one horse, and they are now searching for others supposed to be planted thereabouts. As soon as I can communicate with them I will order enough to make the force across the river one-half, over to report to General Couch.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Kinston, N. C., March 15, 1865.

Col. J. W. SAVAGE,
Commanding Twelfth New York Cavalry:

SIR: The general commanding directs me to say that General Schofield wishes one-half of the effective cavalry on the other side of the river for picketing and patrolling the roads there. You will therefore send over at once a sufficient number, to report to Major-General Couch, to increase Major West's force to one-half of the force under your immediate command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Kinston, March 15, 1865.

Col. J. W. SAVAGE,
Commanding Cavalry:

SIR: You may leave one of your majors with one troop besides Captain Graham's to scout the south side of the river, and report with the rest on the north side to scout in direction of Goldsborough, &c.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 10.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION,
DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
In the Field, N. C., March 15, 1865.

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III. In accordance with orders from district headquarters the division will move across to Kinston this p. m. immediately after the division of General Ruger. The order of march will be as follows: First, the brigade of General Harland; second, the brigade of Colonel Boughton, and, thirdly, the brigade of Colonel Claassen; the whole followed by the two batteries, the Napoleon guns first. All the wagons of the division will follow in the rear of the artillery. The rear guard will be detailed from the brigade of Colonel Claassen and will march behind the artil lery. The general has been sounded at these headquarters, but has not been replied to. More attention must be paid to the calls and the general sounded at once.

By command of Brigadier-General Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

U. S. STEAMER AGAWAM,
New Berne, March 15, 1865.

Major-General COX:

I dispatched the gun-boat Whitehead up the river this morning. She grounded below the obstructions and had great difficulty in getting over. She is now, however, above the obstructions, but has damaged her rudder so that she will be delayed. She will go up as soon as possible. The Shrapnel is in the river above; one of the flats was taken up by her, but I do not know how far she proceeded. The water is very low.

Respectfully, yours,

A. C. RHIND,
Commander, Senior Officer.

CADE'S PLANTATION, N. C., *March 15, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Wilmington, N. C.:

GENERAL: Your dispatch to General Sherman was received and forwarded by me.* The general has gone with the Left Wing. My

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* See 14th, p. 840.

head of column is now twelve miles out. I expect to reach the railroad north of Faison's Depot by Sunday. You will find enough in the country for a few days. I hope you will get up as far as that.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

MARCHING ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Wilmington, N. C., March 15, 1865.

The divisions of Generals Ames and Paine will advance toward Faison's Depot, on the Wilmington and Goldsborough Railroad, to-morrow morning, commencing their march at 7 o'clock. The first day's march will be from the Northeast Branch, fifteen miles, to the neighborhood of Burgaw Creek. On the second day South Washington will be reached, where supplies will be provided. On the first day's march General Ames' division, with Lee's battery, will lead. The bridge equipage which Major Slosson has been directed to organize will accompany the leading division. The wagon train will follow the column. The commander of the rear division will detail one regiment to follow the train as a rear guard. In case Major-General Terry should not be present at the time for moving to-morrow morning, General Ames will take command and start the column. Guards have been sent to the front and ordered to report at the house of Mr. Quince, near Northeast Station.

By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 59. HDQRS. PROVISIONAL CORPS, DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, N. C., March 15, 1865.

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V. The senior officer of the detachment of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, accompanying the moving column, will proceed with his command to Northeast Station this afternoon and bivouac at that point for the night. In the morning he will have his men in readiness to move at 9 o'clock, but will await the arrival of the major-general commanding.

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By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CADE'S PLANTATION, N. C., *March 15, 1865.*

Brigadier-General HAWLEY,
Commanding Post of Wilmington, N. C.:

GENERAL: A train of 600 to 800 refugees, white and black, has started this day for Wilmington via Clinton. These refugees have been collected by both wings of the army, and it was impracticable to furnish them with either very good teams or much of a supply of pro-

visions. I will be under many obligations if you will send scouting parties out on the road from Wilmington to meet and aid them to their destination, on their arrival with you.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
New Berne, N. C., March 15, 1865.

Brig. Gen. H. W. BIRGE,
Commanding Second Division, Nineteenth Army Corps.

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you have that portion of your command now in this place in readiness to take the field without delay. Orders calling them to the front may be received at any moment. He also desires that you have the Third Brigade of your division, now at Morehead, supplied with everything necessary to fit them for active field service, in order that they may be ready to take the field when their services are no longer required at Morehead.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General, in Charge of Headquarters.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, twelve miles from Fayetteville, N. C., Raleigh road, March 15, 1865.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Department of the South, Charleston:

GENERAL: I got a file of Northern papers yesterday from Wilmington, in which I observe you are in command of the Department of the South. I have had no official communications from the War Department or General Grant since my departure from Savannah, and am compelled to pick up information the best way I can. I wrote to General Foster from Fayetteville, supposing him to be in command of the department, and hope you got the letter, and it is a fear that its contents may not reach you promptly which induces me to write this. When at Columbia I had the railroad broken down to Kingsville and the Wateree bridge. Subsequently from Cheraw I aimed to strike Florence, but sent too weak a party, but the enemy himself has destroyed the Pedee bridge, and has on the railroad at Sumterville, and between it and Florence, a vast amount of rolling-stock, the destruction of which is all important, and it should be done before any repairs can be made whereby they can be removed. I want it done at once, and leave you to devise the way. I think 2,500 men lightly equipped with pack-mules only, could reach the road either from Georgetown or the Santee bridge. I think also that you can easily make up that force from Savannah and Charleston. As to the garrisons of those cities, I don't feel disposed to be over generous, and should not hesitate to burn Savannah, Charleston, and Wilmington, or either of them if the garrisons were needed. Savannah and Wilmington are the only really useful ports, because of their inland rivers. Still, I suppose you can always get garrisons of sick, disabled, or indifferent

troops. All real good soldiers must now be marching. Do not let your command rest on its oars, but keep them going all the time, even if for no other purpose than to exhaust the enemy's country, or compel him to defend it. The simple fact that a man's home has been visited by an enemy makes a soldier in Lee's and Johnston's army very anxious to get home to look after his family and property. But the expedition I have indicated to Sumterville and Florence has even higher aims. Those cars and locomotives should be destroyed, if to do it costs you 500 men. I know you can get there all the bacon, beef, meat, &c., your command may want, and a good deal of corn meal. The men could march without knapsacks, with a single blanket, and carry eight days' provisions, which, with what is in the country, will feed the command two weeks. Let it be done at once, and select your own point of departure. After destroying those cars and engines (not merely damaging them, but an absolute destruction of boilers, steam chambers, connecting rods, flanges, &c.—powder can be used to good advantage in blowing up boilers and engines, but we use cold chisels and crowbars)—you may reduce your garrisons to the minimum, and send every man to New Berne and Goldsborough. I want to collect an army that can whip Lee in open fight if he lets go Richmond, which I think he will soon be forced to do.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

KINSTON, *March 15, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Hilton Head, S. C.:

General Easton informs me that he cannot send any steamers to Hilton Head at present, but may be able to in a few days, and that he cannot send any coal.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 66. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, *Hilton Head, S. C., March 15, 1865.*

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VII. Col. B. C. Tilghman, Third U. S. Colored Troops, will, during the temporary absence of Brig. Gen. E. P. Scammon, exercise command of the District of Florida.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

W. L. M. BURGER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 15, 1865.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have the honor to state that the Spanish consul has called upon me and informed me of three lots of cotton held by a Spanish

subject residing in this town. He produces bills of sale of the same showing that the cotton came into his possession either before the war or during the early part of it. The consul requests that the owner may be allowed to retain it. I have said to him that I will delay the action in this case until I write for orders in the case. If any exceptions are to be made to the general rule, which I could not advise, I would suggest that this be one. From what I can learn I believe the Spanish residents of the town have been more honest in their neutrality than other foreigners residing here, and attribute it in a great measure to the consul himself, who has, I have no doubt, honestly carried out the instructions received from his Government. Instructions on the subject of the cotton have been requested. The amount is much greater than was supposed when we first occupied the city.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 15, 1865.

Brig. Gen. J. P. HATCH,
Comdg. Northern Dist., Dept. of the South, Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: The steamer New York is ordered to touch at Charleston to take on board one or more of the regiments that are to be detached from your command for duty in North Carolina. You will therefore load this steamer with troops taken from the regiments already designated (the Fifty-fourth and Fifty-sixth New York and the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers), and direct her to proceed to the mouth of the Cape Fear River, and report to the commanding officer of the troops there for orders. The New York has some troops on board already.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES, POST OF CHARLESTON,
Charleston, S. C., March 15, 1865.

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of the South, Hilton Head, S. C.:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from the major-general commanding the department, dated the 13th instant, and containing instructions for my guidance in the matter of trade. These instructions will be carefully obeyed. I have thus far forwarded to the honorable Secretary of the Treasury, through your headquarters, thirteen sets of applications for as many applicants, asking for shipments to the value of $900,000. I propose to approve about $600,000 more and then to await future developments. I believe the parties recommended are safe men.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

STEWART L. WOODFORD,
Colonel 103d U. S. Colored Troops, Commanding Post.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 16, 1865.*
(Received 3.55 p. m.)

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War:

I am just in receipt of a letter from General Sherman, of the 12th, from Fayetteville. He describes his army as in fine health and spirits, having met with no serious opposition. Hardee keeps in his front at a respectful distance. At Columbia he destroyed immense arsenals and railroad establishments and forty-three cannon. At Cheraw he found much machinery and war material, including twenty-five cannon and 3,600 barrels of powder. At Fayetteville he found twenty pieces of artillery and much other material. He says nothing about Kilpatrick's defeat by Hampton, but the officer who brings his letter says that before daylight on the 10th Hampton got two brigades in rear of Kilpatrick's headquarters, and surprised and captured all the staff but two officers. Kilpatrick escaped, formed his men, and defeated the enemy with great loss, recapturing about all that he had lost. Hampton lost eighty-six, left dead on the field.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., March 16, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Your interesting letter of the 12th instant is just received. I have never felt any uneasiness for your safety, but I have felt great anxiety to know just how you were progressing. I knew, or thought I did, that with the magnificent army with you you would come out safely somewhere. To secure certain success I deemed the capture of Wilmington of the greatest importance. Butler came near losing that prize to us, but Terry and Schofield have since retrieved his blunders, and I do not know but that the first failure has been as valuable a success for the country as the capture of Fort Fisher. Butler may not see it in that light. Ever since you started on the last campaign, and before, I have been attempting to get something done in the West, both to co-operate with you and to take advantage of the enemy's weakness there to accomplish results favorable to us. Knowing Thomas to be slow beyond excuse I depleted his army to re-enforce Canby, so that he might act from Mobile Bay on the interior. With all I have said he had not moved at last advices. Canby was sending a cavalry force of about 7,000 from Vicksburg toward Selma. I ordered Thomas to send Wilson from Eastport toward the same point and to get him off as soon after the 20th of February as possible. He telegraphed me that he would be off by that date. He has not yet started, or had not at last advices. I ordered him to send Stoneman from East Tennessee into Northwest South Carolina to be there about the time you would reach Columbia. He would either have drawn off the enemy's cavalry from you or would have succeeded in destroying railroads, supplies, and other materials which you could not reach. At that time the Richmond papers were full of accounts of your movements and gave daily accounts of movements in West North Carolina. I supposed all the time it was Stoneman. You may judge my surprise when I afterward learned that Stoneman was still in Louisville, Ky., and that the troops in North Carolina were Kirk's forces. In order that Stoneman might

get off without delay, I told Thomas that 3,000 men would be sufficient for him to take. In the meantime I had directed Sheridan to get his cavalry ready and as soon as the snow in the mountains melted sufficiently to start for Staunton and go on and destroy the Virginia Central road and the canal. Time advanced until he set the 28th of February for starting. I informed Thomas and directed him to change the course of Stoneman toward Lynchburg to destroy the road in Virginia up as near to that place as possible. Not hearing from Thomas I telegraphed to him about the 12th to know if Stoneman was yet off. He replied that he had not but that he (Thomas) would start that day for Knoxville to get him off as soon as possible. Sheridan has made his raid and with splendid success so far as heard. I am looking for him at White House to-day. Since about the 20th of last month the Richmond papers have been prohibited from publishing accounts of army movements. We are left to our own resources, therefore, for information. You will see from the papers what Sheridan has done. If you do not the officer who bears this will tell you all. Lee has depleted his army but very little recently and I learn of none going south. Some regiments may have been detached, but I think no division or brigade. The determination seems to be to hold Richmond as long as possible. I have a force sufficient to leave enough to hold our lines, all that is necessary of them, and move out with plenty to whip his whole army. But the roads are entirely impassable. Until they improve I shall content myself with watching Lee and be prepared to pitch into him if he attempts to evacuate the place. I may bring Sheridan over; I think I will, and break up the Danville and South Side railroads. These are the last avenues left to the enemy. Recruits have come in so rapidly at the West that Thomas has now about as much force as he had when he attacked Hood. I have stopped all who under previous orders would go to him, except those from Illinois. Fearing the possibility of the enemy falling back to Lynchburg, and afterward attempting to go into East Tennessee or Kentucky, I have ordered Thomas to move the Fourth Corps to Bull's Gap and to fortify there, and to hold out to the Virginia line if he can. He has accumulated a large amount of supplies in Knoxville and has been ordered not to destroy any of the railroad west of the Virginia line. I told him to get ready for a campaign toward Lynchburg, if it became necessary. He never can make one there or elsewhere, but the steps taken will prepare for any one else to take his troops and come east or go toward Rome, whichever may be necessary. I do not believe either will. When I hear that you and Schofield are together with your back upon the coast I shall feel that you are entirely safe against anything the enemy can do. Lee may evacuate Richmond, but he cannot get there with force enough to touch you. His army is now demoralized and deserting very fast, both to us and to their homes. A retrograde movement would cost him thousands of men, even if we did not follow. Five thousand men belonging to the corps with you are now on their way to join you. If more re-enforcements are necessary I will send them. My notion is that you should get Raleigh as soon as possible and hold the railroad from there back. This may take more force than you now have. From that point all North Carolina roads can be made useless to the enemy without keeping up communications with the rear. Hoping to hear soon of your junction with the forces from Wilmington and New Berne,

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

U. S. STEAMER EOLUS,
Off Fayetteville, March 16, 1865—5 a. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

SIR: I had the honor to receive your communication of the 15th, at 7 p. m. of same date. I have written Captain Young, making known your wishes in regard to this vessel; also the tug. He will see General Dodge and make the necessary arrangements with him. I do not think Captain Young has a tug at his disposal now. I shall remain as near Fayetteville as possible till ordered down, or until I hear from you that my services are no longer needed. The steamers Lady Lang and Mary Benton are here unloading. The former goes down this morning. I shall send my dispatch by her. The river has stopped falling. More transports are expected up.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

E. S. KEYSER,
Acting Master, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Kyle's Landing, N. C.,
March 16, 1865—2 a. m.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: Yours is just received. Your orders are all right. I fear the present rain will make the roads utterly impracticable. Hardee's whole force is in our front near the forks of the road, and I have ordered Slocum to go at him in the morning in good shape but vigorously and push him beyond Averasborough. Kilpatrick is ahead across the branch marked [Taylor's] Hole, about two miles this side the forks. Your courier brings me good news from Schofield and Terry. Schofield reports he whipped Bragg handsomely at Kinston and undertakes to have supplies for us there and probably farther along. Terry says he can reach Faison's with his 9,000 men by Sunday or Monday, and that the rest of Schofield's troops that had left Wilmington had made junction with Schofield at Kinston. Also that Sheridan is coming to us by land with 8,000 cavalry. So all is working well around us and we must not scatter, but aim to converge about Bentonville, and afterward Goldsborough. The rain is as bad for our opponents as for us, and I doubt if they have as good supplies or transportation as we. Terry has sent up 3,800 pairs of shoes and 2,400 pairs of pants. Divide with Slocum. We took Col. Alfred Rhett, of Fort Sumter, prisoner yesterday. He is commanding a brigade in Hardee's troops ahead, and from drop expressions I think Hardee will try and fight us at the cross-roads.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Jackson's Farm, N. C.,
Graham's Bridge Road, March 16, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

GENERAL: General Logan's head of column reached this point about 1.30 p. m. His divisions are going into camp; three will be here by dark.

Woods' division will encamp near South River. The roads are so terrible that we cannot more than close up the wagon train to that point. General Geary, with his train, is near by, and will encamp on my left. There is a cross-road here leading north into the Raleigh road. General Blair will, without doubt, be at the cross-roads just east of Owensville. In the morning I will move forward toward Bentonville, till I reach the road leading northward from Beaman's Cross-Roads. General Blair has been directed to move to Beaman's Cross-Roads, throwing his mounted men down to Clinton, to cover the refugee train. General Geary was going farther, but I took the liberty of stopping him here in consequence of your letter. The rebel cavalry have been very stubborn to-day in our front. Corse's men drove them across the Cohera, covering the movement northward. The rebels were intrenched at South River, at Logan's crossing. His men were crossed above in pontoons and turned them out. They have with that force a section of artillery. I am anxious to hear the moment General Slocum's left column gets across the Black.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 62.

HDQRS. DEPT. AND ARMY OF THE TENN.,
Near Jackson's Farm, N. C.,
March 16, 1865.

The unencumbered divisions of the Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will move to-morrow to the crossing of the road on which the head of column is now encamped with the Clinton and Raleigh road. The surplus trains of the corps, with their guard, will move to Beaman's Cross-Roads. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will move to Beaman's Cross-Roads. These headquarters will follow the second division in order of march of the Fifteenth Army Corps.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, N. C., March 16, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: In consequence of the bad roads and rapid rise of the river I have been unable to get my ordnance and ambulance trains across, and have gone into camp three miles this side. River is still rising rapidly and roads very bad in my front. Shall I cut loose from my ordnance and ambulance trains and push forward with the troops, or wait here and build a bridge across the river to-morrow morning?

I have the honor to be, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

I have sent to General W. B. Woods to prepare the material and put in the bridge during the night, or as soon as possible. If the creek does

not rise more than eighteen inches I think the whole supply train can be crossed in the morning. I will put my whole infantry force to work in the morning repairing the roads in my front.

N. B.—Since the above was written I have succeeded in crossing the ordnance and ambulance trains but the supply train cannot cross without a bridge. C. R. W.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Jones' Swamp, N. C., March 16, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that in compliance with orders received from the major-general commanding the corps, I left my camp near Cape Fear River at 6 o'clock this morning, and taking the road as pursued by the Third Division and balance of the corps, reached South River about 3 p. m. Overtaking the trains of the Third Division, I massed my command, waiting until 6 o'clock before I obtained the bridge, when I began moving my command over. The crossing soon became so bad that each team had to be assisted by the troops, and this while the men were in water two feet deep. At 10 o'clock to-night my last wagon was brought over, and I am now in camp three miles this side the river with my troops covering the road both to the front and rear. My headquarters are on the roadside, just between my two lines. Without further orders I shall move at 6 a. m. to-morrow.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Mrs. Lockery's, N. C., March 16, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that this command moved at 9 a. m. this morning in rear of the Fourth Division, crossing the Black River at Maxwell's Bridge and camping eight miles in advance of that point.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Little Cohera Creek, N. C., March 16, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the movements and operations of my command the 15th instant: Pursuant to orders from corps headquarters I broke camp at 9 a. m. sharp and moved upon the Goldsborough road to the vicinity of South River, where the enemy was developed upon the opposite bank, and immediately opened with artillery and small-arms, the latter being from a pretty strong skirmish line holding a position in front of a wooded swamp covered with water from two to four feet in depth.

The enemy had rendered the bridge over the main channel (which was about ten feet deep) impassable by removing the covering of the bridge. Upon the arrival of the pontoon train, at 6 p. m., I placed two boats across the main channel of the stream, and at 8 p. m. commenced crossing my infantry, who were compelled to wade a distance of 200 yards through the swamp with water to the waist after leaving the boats. At 9.30 the Seventh Iowa Infantry Volunteers succeeded in making a lodgment on high ground on the opposite bank, and found the enemy had left his position, which this regiment immediately occupied. Upon receiving intelligence of the flight of the enemy, I at once placed a detail at work on the bridge, in order to have it in readiness for crossing my trains in the morning. My command has made a march of ten miles.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Little Cohera Creek, N. C., March 16, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that, pursuant to orders from corps headquarters, I broke camp at 7 a. m., crossed South River, and from thence moved on the Goldsborough road, a distance of six miles, where I moved to the left on a neighborhood road to its intersection with the Fayetteville and Bentonville road, where my command is now in bivouac, having made a march of nine miles. I would state that before leaving the Goldsborough, or Maxwell road, as citizens term it, one regiment and a section of artillery was detached from my column to expel the enemy from a position he had taken across Little Cohera Creek, about half a mile distant from the point of my departure from this road, in which they were successful, and one brigade (the Second) left in position at that point as a protection to the flanks of the column while passing. This brigade has rejoined the division.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 45.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION,
FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, N. C., March 16, 1865.

I. The troops of this division will march at 7 a. m. sharp to-morrow, the 17th instant, on Fayetteville and Bentonville road in the following order, viz: The Third Brigade in advance, the First Brigade in center, and Second Brigade in rear, the troops marching to the right of and by the side of trains. Trains in same order as heretofore. The column must keep well closed up.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Jackson's Farm, N. C., March 16, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: General Sherman says that Hardee is in front of Slocum on the river road, and he thinks he intends to make a stand at the cross-roads above Kyle's Landing. Please move to Beaman's Cross-Roads to-morrow, effecting a crossing, however, of the creek in your front with your mounted men, in order to let the refugees pass through Clinton. If Slocum needs us we can march up the Raleigh road, but if he does not you will be directed to Troublefield's Store, and Logan's disencumbered divisions will move straight on Bentonville, while his trains will follow you from Beaman's Cross-Roads. Our main objective has been changed to Everettsville instead of Faison's Depot, as ordered before. Schofield reports that he whipped Bragg, and is near Kinston. Terry says he will be at Faison's by Sunday or Monday. Expect further orders at Beaman's Cross-Roads. We have skirmished with the rebel cavalry to-day, supporting artillery. Your movement will turn them out.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 67. HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Owensville, N. C., March 16, 1865.

The command will move to Beaman's Cross-Roads to-morrow. Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will have the advance and will move forward at 7 a. m. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will move forward at 7 a. m. and close up on the Fourth Division. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will move forward at as early an hour as practicable and close up on the Third Division. The section of the pontoon train will follow the Fourth Division. The detachment of department headquarters train will follow the Third Division. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower will leave one regiment with the main pontoon train as guard. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will proceed to Clinton and remain there until the arrival of the refugee train. They will then move over to Faison's Depot and communicate with General Terry, and if practicable obtain ammunition. From thence they will move northward and join the command.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Owensville, N. C., March 16, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move forward at 7 a. m. to-morrow, sending forward your white pioneer corps at 6 o'clock to the bridge on Little Cohera. General Smith is working

on the bridge; if he finishes it by 7 o'clock he will cross and take the advance. If, however, the bridge is not completed before you get here, you will take the advance.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
In the Field, March 16, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. W. GEARY,
Commanding Second Division, Twentieth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose herewith a copy of the order of march of this command for to-morrow.* I am directed by the general commanding this wing of the army to say that in the absence of orders from your immediate commanding generals you will follow the disencumbered divisions of Major-General Logan's (Fifteenth) army corps, but it is suggested that you remain in your present position to-morrow, as you will see from the order of march that this column moves forward but five miles.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, Kinston, March 16, 1865.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Understanding that the late Congress passed a law to increase the efficiency of the Commissary Department, creating new grades, &c., I desire, respectfully, to recommend Lieut. Col. R. B. Treat, chief commissary of subsistence of the Twenty-third Army Corps, for appointment as inspector in the Commissary Department, under that law. Lieutenant-Colonel Treat has been with me since I took command of the Army of the Ohio; was for the greater part of the time acting chief commissary of subsistence of the army in the field, and performed the duties of his office with a fidelity, zeal, and efficiency that eminently entitle him to promotion.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, *March 16, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

The boats with commissary stores, on account of the storm and an accident, did not proceed far yesterday. They went on to-day and I think will get through without further difficulty.

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

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* See p. 862.

HEADQUARTERS TWELFTH NEW YORK CAVALRY,
In the Field, March 16, 1865.

Maj. THEO. COX,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: A strong picket of the enemy is maintained on the other side of Falling Creek. Information tolerably reliable shows that there is a small force of infantry, say 100 men, and some cavalry a short distance beyond. I crossed skirmishers this afternoon, but was unable to get horses across. Efforts will be made in the morning to cross either on the Goldsborough road or at some point north.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. SAVAGE,
Colonel Twelfth New York Cavalry.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, 13 Miles on Raleigh Road out of Fayetteville,
March 16, 1865—2 a. m.

Major-General TERRY,
Wilmington, N. C.:

GENERAL: Thank you kindly for the shoes and pants, and still more for the certain knowledge that General Schofield is in possession of Kinston. That is of great importance, for thence to Goldsborough there are no bridges. I will, in consequence, move straight on Goldsborough. It is now raining hard and the bottom has fallen out, and we will have to corduroy every foot of the way. Hardee is ahead of me and shows fight. I will go at him in the morning with four divisions and push him as far as Averasborough before turning toward Bentonville and Cox's Bridge. My extreme right will aim for Everettsville and Faison's. I am delighted that General Sheridan is slashing away with his column of cavalry. He will be a disturbing element in the grand and beautiful game of war, and if he reaches me I'll make all North Carolina howl. I will make him a deed of gift of every horse in the State, to be settled for at the day of judgment. I cannot, of course, reach General Sheridan with any suggestions, but he should march for Danville, Greensborough, and Raleigh, or rather near those points, making some detours to mislead. Tell General Dodge to keep boats running up Cape Fear until he knows I am at my new base. This rain, so damaging to my land transportation, is a good thing for the river, which had fallen very much. He can use the rebel captured boats, which, if lost, are of no account. Each of those boats should be supplied a good barge that can hold all the crew in case the boat is caught by a fall in the river. Captain Young agreed to keep his gun-boats running busy and as high up as possible. I want to keep up the impression that I am using the Cape Fear River for supplies, for our foolish Northern journals have published the fact that I am aiming for New Berne, a fact that I had concealed from everybody not necessarily in my confidence. These fellows discovered it by the course taken by the supply boats from Port Royal.

Hoping to meet you soon, I am, &c.,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—We took some prisoners to-day, among them Col. Alfred Rhett, of Fort Sumter, who commands a brigade in Hardee's army.

SHERMAN.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
March 16, 1865—6.10 p. m.

Brevet Major-General AMES:

GENERAL: Major-General Terry directs me to say that Paine's division will not cross to-night. Lee's battery will, if it can. The wagon train is very much behind hand on account of the difficulty of crossing the bridge. Probably it will not be up in time to start in the morning. He thinks it would be best for you to push on in the morning (starting at 6 o'clock) to South Washington, so as to protect the stores which he expects there by noon to-morrow, leaving Paine to come up with the wagons. Unless you hear something to the contrary from him during the night, please carry out this programme. You can take half the cavalry with you, leaving the other half with Paine. Please direct the officer commanding the cavalry to go into camp, and send one of the guides to Paine. You, of course, will have the whole picket duty on your side of the creek. Headquarters will be at the church, about half a mile this side the creek.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. H. GRAVES,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
In the Field, N. C., March 16, 1865.

Brig. Gen. C. J. PAINE,
Commanding Third Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding, deeming it of the utmost importance to have possession of South Washington before the arrival of our steamers at that place, so as to place their safety beyond a doubt, has directed General Ames to move at 6 a. m. to-morrow so as to arrive at that point by noon, the hour appointed for the arrival of the steamers. The scattered condition of our train requires that your command should be delayed until it can be closed up. You will please cross Burgaw Creek at 7 a. m. and move forward until there is sufficient space beyond the creek for the whole train to pass it, halting your command until it shall have done so. Your pioneers will be employed during the day to-morrow in repairing the road, as ordered to-day.

By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 16, 1865.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Department of the South:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the quantity of cotton in this town and vicinity is probably between 5,000 and 10,000 bales. It is mostly held in small quantities by people who, mistrusting the value of the currency of the South, invested their savings in cotton as a means of securing something should the city fall into the hands of the Government troops. I would respectfully request instructions from

yourself or the War Department with regard to it. Having no instructions, I have endeavored to carry out, so far as possible, the policy adopted in Savannah, which was, I understand, sanctioned by the Department. I am now collecting the cotton, using the new custom-house as a place of deposit. Each lot is marked and entered in a book, with the name of the claimant and any peculiar circumstances connected with it, which may be of some service either to the Government or the owner. No receipts have been given, as I am informed none were given in Savannah. If the Department should decide to give receipts the books are so kept that they can be given by reference to them. I would also request instructions with regard to rosin, turpentine, and tobacco found here. There will undoubtedly be quite a large amount of these valuable articles and I am now seizing them.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *March 17, 1865—2 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

Dispatches have just been received from Sheridan.* After leaving Columbia, the point at which his first dispatch was dated, he proceeded to Goochland, destroying the canal to that place. He then moved up to the Virginia Central Railroad at Tolersville and destroyed it down to Beaver Dam Station, totally destroying fifteen miles of the road. The Ashland and South Anna bridges were destroyed. There is not now a bridge on the road from South Anna to Lynchburg. He will reach White House to-night. His command is in good condition.

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 53. } *City Point, Va., March 17, 1865.*

I. First Lieut. William M. Dunn, jr., acting aide-de-camp, will proceed as bearer of dispatches to Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman, commanding Military Division of the Mississippi, upon the delivery of which he will rejoin these headquarters. He will proceed from City Point to Fort Monroe on the mail boat, and there take the first steamer for New Berne, N. C., from which point he will proceed by the most practicable means. The quartermaster's department will furnish necessary transportation.

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By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Eighteen Miles Northeast Fayetteville,
March 17, 1865—7 a. m.

Maj. Gen. O. O. HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: General Slocum found the enemy covering the narrow neck from Taylor's Hole up to the Goldsborough road. He drove

* See Vol. XLVI, Part II, pp. 918, 993.

them from two successive positions, taking three guns, some prisoners and wounded, but losing himself pretty severely, I think as many as 300 in all. But the enemy lost heavily also, from appearances. At night the enemy still held the forks, but it is just reported that he is gone, I suppose up to Averasborough, where the Raleigh and Smithfield roads fork. Your scout, Duncan, is just in, having escaped from McLaws' guard, he thinks about twelve miles out on the Smithfield road; so Hardee is retreating on Smithfield. Slocum will feel out toward Averasborough, but move his column on the Goldsborough road, which is that which crosses Black and Mingo Creeks just ahead of where we are. Our true tactics would be to push all our columns to Smithfield, but I will only follow Hardee far enough to give him impulse, when we must resume our [course]. I want you to-day to get to where the Goldsborough road crosses Mingo, and have that bridge well repaired. You need not come over to Slocum unless you hear him engaged. We might cut his column at Elevation, but it will be time enough to think of that to-night. Blair is getting too far off. Better draw him and all your trains toward Troublefield's Store. Weather having cleared off, we may count on better roads. Have a road for your column reconnoitered from Mingo bridge to that point north of Troublefield's where three roads meet. I expect to be to-night somewhere between Black River and Mingo bridge.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Crossing of Fayetteville and Goldsborough with Clinton and Raleigh Roads, March 17, 1865—3 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Your dispatch by Duncan received. I am glad enough to see him back. He was stripped of his clothing, and everything, even to his finger ring, and in the presence of Hampton himself. Quite different usage from that I bestow on prisoners from Hampton. Your order for me to repair the bridge across Mingo Creek made me think you were mistaken as to my position. By dark Logan will have his four divisions at this point. It is thirteen miles from here to Averasborough, eleven to Bentonville, and seven to Beaman's Cross-Roads, to which place Blair is moving. You said you thought Blair was getting too far off. When Logan turned northward toward this road Blair did the same. You gave me Everettsville as my objective. Now that General Slocum has turned toward Goldsborough, I have given my orders according to the programme you laid down for me; but thinking you might wish still to turn on Smithfield, I will lead the disencumbered divisions toward Bentonville, across both branches of the Cohera, and then can take a road leading direct to Everettsville. This road begins about five miles beyond Seven-Mile Branch. I heard that the quartermaster in charge of shoes, &c., by the steamer had refused to send the half I left to General Slocum for want of quartermaster's receipts. I regret it exceedingly, as I would have had them receipted for and sent to him had I suspected such meanness. I hope, however it is not true. Thinking you might wish me to push farther north, I have had one division encamped well out on the Averasborough road, and Corse has sent a reconnaissance toward Mingo

Creek. I have not done more than that, as you intimated that I should not move over to Slocum, unless there was further need than now appears. I had information that Bragg had left Goldsborough and was retreating on Raleigh, through Smithfield, prior to Duncan's arrival.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Camp between North River and Mingo Creek,
March 17, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: North River had to be bridged and has delayed us to-day. Davis is on Mingo and Williams on North River. Kilpatrick is up the road in the direction of Elevation. We still threaten Smithville [Smithfield], but to-morrow will move rapidly toward Cox's Bridge and Goldsborough. If the enemy fail to fight for Goldsborough, of course we go right in, Slocum by Cox's Bridge, and you by the south, as Schofield comes from the east (Kinston). But if the enemy opposes, I propose to throw our empty wagons down to Kinston for forage and supplies whilst we proceed to reduce Goldsborough. To this end Slocum will break the railroad west of Cox's Bridge, and you will cross Neuse in front as Schofield comes from the east and swings against the railroad north of the town. I doubt if there be any fortifications at Goldsborough capable of holding anything more than a railroad guard. I have examined your order and it will do, only get on a right-hand road as soon as possible, that you may not delay Slocum's troops, who will necessarily all be forced on the one road. Try and keep around the head of Falling Water Creek, viz, to its south. I will push Slocum to-morrow and next day and think by day after to-morrow we will all be in position, viz, you directly in front of Goldsborough and Slocum at Cox's Bridge. At the time I sent Colonel Ewing to you yesterday the enemy had brought Slocum up all standing, and it was on the theory that he would hold Slocum there that I wanted you at Mingo bridge; but the enemy retreated in the night on Smithfield and we are again on the march feigning to the left, but moving trains and troops as rapidly as the roads admit, on Goldsborough. You may do the same. The enemy yesterday had a strong intrenched line in front of the cross-roads, and had posted the Charleston brigade about one-third mile in front, also intrenched. The Twentieth Corps struck the first line, turned it handsomely and used the Charleston brigade up completely, killing about 40 and gathering about 35 wounded and 100 well prisoners, capturing 3 guns, but on advancing farther encountered the larger line, which they did not carry, but was abandoned at night. This morning a division of Williams' followed as far as Averasborough whilst the rest turned to the right, as I have heretofore stated. Slocum lost in killed and wounded about 300. He is somewhat heavily burdened by his wounded, which must be hauled. We left the Confederate wounded in a house by the roadside. The route of retreat of the enemy showed signs of considerable panic, and I have no doubt he got decidedly the worst of it.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

BEAMAN'S CROSS-ROADS,
March 17, 1865—1.35 p. m.

Maj. Gen. O. O. HOWARD,
Commanding Army of the Tennessee:

DEAR GENERAL: I have been here about half an hour. A brigade of rebel cavalry was here at the cross-roads this morning. Their rear guard of about forty men left as I came up; have halted one mile out on Bentonville road. I learn that the brigade was ordered to B. this morning. No signs of General Blair. Have sent scouting party toward Clinton with instructions to keep on till they meet the advance of Seventeenth Corps. Will go on myself in a few minutes. The road is excellent, and I see plenty of forage.

Respectfully,

WM. E. STRONG,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

P. S.—There were two brigades here instead of one. General Butler was at the cross-roads last night. The command left at 10.30 a. m.

Respectfully,

W. E. S.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 63.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Jackson's Cross-Roads, N. C., March 17, 1865.

The disencumbered divisions of the Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. J. A. Logan commanding, will move to-morrow on the Bentonville road, and leaving Troublefield's Store on the right, take the most direct road toward Everettsville, making a march of from twelve to fifteen miles. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will move to-morrow to Troublefield's Store, at which point the column will be divided. One division, followed by the bridge train and surplus trains of the Fifteenth Army Corps, will move directly toward Everettsville. The other two divisions will move by a lower route toward Mount Olive. The corps will march a distance of twelve or fifteen miles, and in case anything should interrupt communication the march will be continued the next day to Everettsville and Mount Olive. These headquarters will follow the leading division of the Fifteenth Army Corps.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
In the Field, March 17, 1865—10 a. m.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. JOHN W. GEARY,
Commanding Second Division, Twentieth Army Corps:

GENERAL: At the direction of the general commanding, I have the honor to inform you that we have arrived at the cross-roads four miles and a half from your camp. All force of the enemy has withdrawn from this point, which is thirteen miles from Averasborough and seven miles from Beaman's Cross-Roads. The Fifteenth Corps will go into camp near here, one division some distance down the road toward

Averasborough, in case orders are received from General Sherman that we are needed. The general desires me to say further that you may as well make yourselves comfortable, as the ground does not improve up to this point. Beyond here, however, the ground seems higher and more improved.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Jackson's Cross-Roads, N. C., March 17, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Department and Army of the Tennessee:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that my four unencumbered divisions are up, and the rear one (the First) is now going into camp. My scouts have returned from the bridge over Mingo Creek, and report General Kilpatrick's troops at the crossing.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Jackson's Cross-Roads, N. C., March 17, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Escaped prisoners report that there are four or five rebel scouts dressed in our uniform complete who make it their business to pick up single men or parties of two or three of our men. The general wishes a lookout to be kept for them by the foragers and others, and if possible bring them in.

Very respectfully,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Blair, Seventeenth Army Corps.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Jackson's Cross-Roads, N. C., March 17, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Should it become necessary to use a section of the pontoon bridge in crossing my trains over Little Cohera Swamp I have the honor to request that you will send as many boats as may be required back to the crossing. They can come up with my wagons.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, N. C., March 17, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that I left camp at daylight this morning and pushed out on the road as taken by General John E. Smith. The roads were very heavy, so much so as to require almost continuous corduroying. The work was done well, so that I know the train under charge of Brevet Brigadier-General Woods will pass over that portion of his route without interruption. Reaching the fork of the road near General Smith's camp, I turned to the left and followed in his rear, reaching my camp at such an hour as to give me everything in snug before dark this evening. At the fork of the road near General Smith's camp of last night I detached one of my regiments and sent it down the right-hand road to the point directed by Major-General Logan, commanding corps. The regiment reported at camp to-night, having accomplished the object desired. There was no sign of the enemy at the crossing. My troops cover the road leading to Beaman's Cross-Roads, my headquarters being on the main road just in rear of my line.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Peters' Cross-Roads, N. C., March 17, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that this division broke camp at 9 a. m. to-day and marched in rear of the Fourth Division, arriving at this point at 2 p. m. My headquarters are about 100 yards north of corps headquarters.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 17, 1865.

Major-General HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, &c.:

GENERAL: In accordance with instructions from department headquarters the pontoon train (one section) will move with the advance division (yours) instead of with the Third, as ordered this evening.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 17, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. B. HAZEN:

I have the honor to make the following report for your information: W. T. Mainor, private, Fifty-first North Carolina Infantry, a paroled prisoner, was brought in by foragers to-night and makes the following statement: We passed through Richmond, Va., March 11, and Golds-

borough March 15. Lieut. Gen. R. E. Lee had left Richmond and was supposed to be at Raleigh. Pickett's division had marched for that place on the 10th. Machinery and refugees were being sent to Greensborough, N. C. Clingman's brigade had been in Goldsborough—had marched for Raleigh on the 13th. On the 15th only one company of artillery was in the city; left to burn the cotton. Roads are good between this point and Goldsborough. Prisoner intelligent and communicative.

I have the honor to be, with greatest respect, your obedient servant,

J. R. SCUPHAM,

Assistant Topographical Engineer, Second Div., 15th Army Corps.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH CORPS,
March 18, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded for information of higher commanders. This soldier says Goldsborough was evacuated on Monday last.

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Head of Jones' Swamp, N. C., March 17, 1865—2 a. m.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this division broke camp at 9 a. m. yesterday, the 16th instant, and following the Second Division, moved on main Goldsborough road to head of Jones' Swamp, encamping near the forks of the main Goldsborough and Graham roads between 7 p. m. and 1 o'clock this a. m. The column was delayed a great deal by the almost impassable condition of the roads. The First Brigade is encamped on Goldsborough road, four regiments in line fronting east, and one regiment three-quarters of a mile in front, as an advance post, covering a small creek, upon the opposite side of which a brigade of Wheeler's and Butler's cavalry is reported to be stationed. Two regiments of the Second Brigade are in line on the Graham road, their right connecting with the left of the First Brigade; one regiment is on the Goldsborough road covering approaches from the rear. The artillery and trains are near, and these headquarters at the forks of road. Distance marched, eight miles. Upon my arrival at South River, one mile and a half from camp, I was obliged to halt my command and wait until 3.40 for the Second Division trains to pass over. A portion of the time I had my pioneer corps at work hauling brick, having had some of my teams unloaded for that purpose, and filling the holes in the road to enable them to get out of my way.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Jackson's Cross-Roads, N. C., March 17, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command broke camp at head of Jones' Swamp at 8 this a. m. and marched, following the

Second Division, eight miles on the Graham road, the last of the command encamping at about 3 p.m., as follows: The Second Brigade on north side of, and parallel with, the road, fronting north and connecting with the left of the Fourth Division; the First Brigade on the south side of and the right resting on the road fronting west, and covering approaches from the rear; artillery and trains in rear of the Second Brigade; headquarters on the south side of the road and about 300 yards in rear of the right of the First Brigade.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Little Cohera Creek, N. C., March 17, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the movements of my command this instant: Pursuant to orders from corps headquarters I broke camp at 7 a. m. and moved upon the Goldsborough road to Jackson's Cross-Roads, six miles distant, where I placed my command in an intrenched position for the night. In accordance with the orders from the major-general commanding corps, I dispatched one regiment of infantry to hold a bridge across Little Cohera about five miles distant from my position, which, however, was withdrawn in accordance with instructions upon the arrival of our cavalry to occupy the same.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 46. } HDQRS. 4TH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Little Cohera Creek, March 17, 1865.

I. This division will be in readiness to march at 9 a. m., awaiting orders after that hour. Brigades in the order of First, Second, Third. The rear and advance guard will consist of two regiments each, which will be independent of the provost guards in advance and rear; the remainder of the troops moving by the side of trains, which must be well closed up. The movement will be in the direction of Everettsville.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 68. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Beaman's Cross-Roads, N. C., March 17, 1865.

The following are the orders for to-morrow: Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will have the advance, and will move forward at 7 a. m., via Troublefield's Store, on the road to Mount Olive. The First Division, Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower commanding, will move forward at 6 o'clock, and will follow the Third Division to Troublefield's Store. It will then take the Everettsville road, via Dead Fields, and move

to a point, if practicable, twelve miles from Beaman's Cross-Roads. Should no orders to the contrary reach General Mower, he will march the next day to Everettsville. The bridge train, Lieutenant-Colonel Tweeddale commanding, will follow the First Division train to Everettsville. Major-General Mower will have a regiment with the bridge train as guard and to assist it. The Fourth Division, Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith commanding, will follow the main bridge train to Troublefield's Store, and then taking the lower road will follow the route of the Third Division. The detachment of the bridge train, Lieutenant Tanner commanding, will follow the Third Division train. The detachment of the train department headquarters will follow the Third Division next after the detachment of the pontoon train, which is encamped near these headquarters. These headquarters will be with the Third Division.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Near Black Creek, N. C., March 17, 1865—8 a. m.

Major-General DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move your corps with your train and wounded to Mingo Creek, by the Goldsborough Road, which passes through Bentonville. General Williams has sent one division to Averasborough to cover the movement. The two divisions of the Twentieth Corps will follow you. They will bury the dead. It is expected that the Right Wing has reached Mingo Creek and is constructing a bridge for us. It will be necessary to send your pioneer corps to build a bridge over Black Creek.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
East of Black Creek, N. C., March 17, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that at a point from one to two miles beyond Mingo Creek the road forks, the left-hand road leading to Smithfield, the right to Goldsborough. He directs that you take the road to the right to Cox's Bridge. He also directs that you throw out a regiment from the leading division on the Smithfield road, to remain while the division is passing, and to be relieved by a regiment from your other division, which will remain until relieved by a regiment from the Twentieth Corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 22. } HDQRS. 14TH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, N. C., March 17, 1865.*

The First and Second Divisions of the corps will move immediately to Mingo Creek, by the Goldsborough road, which passes through Bentonville, carrying their wounded with them. The First Division will take the advance, and General Carlin will throw forward a pioneer party to build a bridge over Black Creek. The reserve battery will still march with the Second Division. Corps headquarters will move with the First Division.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 23. } HDQRS. 14TH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, March 17, 1865.*

General Morgan will move his division at daylight to-morrow upon the direct road to Goldsborough, N. C., and will march as far as the condition of the roads will permit. General Carlin will follow General Morgan. The reserve artillery will move with General Morgan. Corps headquarters will move with General Carlin. Division commanders will see that their wagons are well closed up.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Near Black Creek, N. C., March 17, 1865—8 a. m.

Major-General WILLIAMS,
Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that General Davis has been instructed to move his command to Mingo Creek by the Goldsborough road, which passes through Bentonville. He directs that you keep your division at Averasborough to cover the movement, and that you move your other division with train and wounded to Mingo Creek, in rear of the Fourteenth Corps. General Slocum directs that you make details for interring all the dead, keeping an exact account of the number, our own and rebel.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TWENTIETH CORPS,
In the Field, March 17, 1865.

Lieut. Col. H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Twentieth Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report from the best information I can obtain that there is no enemy in front of this command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. J. JACKSON,
Brigadier General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Near the Kingsbury and Smithfield Road, March 17, 1865.

General J. W. GEARY,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding the corps directs that you move slowly with the trains on the direct road to Goldsborough. We will move as soon as the ambulances and wagons sent for arrive. We met the enemy near the Kingsbury and Smithfield road and were sharply engaged the most of yesterday driving the enemy from two lines of works and capturing three guns, sustaining a loss of about 250 killed and wounded. The enemy have left their third line this morning. He further directs that you push the empty wagons and ambulances sent for forward as rapidly as possible to us. We will move as soon as they arrive. You will also send, if possible, sufficient coffee and hard bread for the wounded (which may amount to 300) either by wagons or by pack animals.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—We will probably move on the Kingsbury and Bentonville road.

C. M.

ON THE BATTLE-FIELD, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*

Major-General GEARY:

DEAR SIR: I arrived here with the train about 2 p. m. Found the Raleigh road—or rather the portion of it we had to travel—perfectly abominable, but thanks to whips and labor and perseverance we waded through. A few wagons from the other divisions joined me on the route and half a dozen cavalry wagons also joined the train. The supply of empty wagons is abundant, but Doctor Goodman scolded about the lack of ambulances. The fight was evidently a sharp one. About 75 killed and 250 wounded, 3 pieces rebel artillery captured and 250 prisoners. Rebels are now on the retreat and our forces are following. We are directed to remain with the troops, and it is expected the lines will converge together rapidly and the wagons will then join their commands. I have dismissed my mounted escort and presume sufficient force will be furnished to get the wagons forward, at least until the troops and trains are again united. I found the Third Division train badly stuck in the mud, about two miles this side of the river. They sent seven wagons to join my train. I thought perhaps you would be interested in learning some of the facts I have stated above. Please forgive my presumption, and I will remain,

Your obedient servant,

MOSES SUMMERS.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Taylor's Hole Creek, N. C., March 17, 1865.

Brig. Gen. W. T. WARD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding the corps directs that you move your division (without wagons) forward carefully on the road toward

Averasborough. It is supposed that the enemy have retired on that road. The general does not wish you to engage the enemy in case you find them, but simply to develop their position. A battery of artillery has been ordered to accompany you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, March 17, 1865.

Major-General KILPATRICK,
Black River Mills:

GENERAL: The enemy has gone from our front, and I take it he is up at the forks of the Raleigh and Smithfield roads—Averasborough. General Slocum will feel up that road, but prepared to use the Goldsborough road which crosses Black and Mingo. I have ordered General Howard to be at Mingo to night, but I want your cavalry on the road which leads from Black River bridge toward Elevation. Captain Duncan, of General Howard's scouts, is here, having escaped. He reports Hardee and Wheeler ahead of us on the Smithfield road. Wade Hampton and Butler are off in front of General Howard. You can forage from the Goldsborough road northward between Black and Mingo.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

KINSTON, *March 17, 1865.*

Major-General SHERMAN:

After the defeat of Bragg at Southwest Creek, on the 10th, he abandoned this place without further opposition. I am straining every nerve to get the railroad completed and supplies for you here. It will be done by the 20th. Your demonstration against Raleigh has caused the enemy to withdraw, nearly, if not quite all his troops from Goldsborough. I could easily have taken that place before now, but for the matter of supplies. I am almost without wagons; but I think you will be able to cross the river and occupy Goldsborough without opposition, if you do not give time for the enemy to come back from Raleigh. I will also advance toward Goldsborough as soon as I can get supplies; I hope, on Sunday or Monday. I am trying to get boats up the river, but none have succeeded in reaching this place yet. The supply question will trouble us. There are only four engines and eighty cars on this road yet. I think it would be well to send your wagons here as soon as your cavalry strike the Neuse River. I will have 20,000 pairs of shoes and other supplies for you here.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, *March 17, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD:

One regiment from the south went to the front as guard to boats Two are repairing Neuse and Trent roads and will reach Southwest Creek in one or two days. Two regiments of the same brigade, viz, Second Brigade, Second Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, are now

here and can go forward at once. The three regiments on the way to the front did not have time to fit out. Brigadier-General Birge, commanding division, is now here. Shall he come forward or remain with the brigade at Morehead? The two regiments repairing road do not belong to the brigade with the one on boats and those here.

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

KINSTON, *March 17, 1865.*

Brigadier-General SCHOFIELD,
New Berne:

Let General Birge remain until the main portion of his division comes forward. How many brigades in his division, and when may the last be expected at Morehead? Ask him if he knows what other troops are coming from the south. I want plenty of men at Morehead and New Berne to handle stores rapidly, and the balance to come forward.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

KINSTON, *March 17, 1865.*

Lieutenant-Colonel CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, New Berne:

I want all troops coming from the south which belong to organized brigades or divisions to come forward and join the army as rapidly as they can be spared, leaving General Easton such as he may require for fatigue and general duty. General Palmer will remain in command of the district. He will have for garrisons his old troops and such of those coming from the south as may be necessary, those without brigade organization being preferred.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, *March 17, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD:

Mr. Van Dyne has just sent me a dispatch, received by him from Major Wherry, directing him to send all stores to the terminus of the railroad. I have instructed Mr. Van Dyne to obey the order, but it may seriously interfere with transportation during the next few days if supply trains are pushed forward now over the half finished track and in the way of the construction trains.

W. W. WRIGHT,
Colonel and Chief Engineer and General Superintendent.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 5.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Kinston, March 17, 1865.

* * * * * * *

II. A brigade not less than 1,000 strong, with one light battery, will be detailed from General Palmer's division for garrison and fatigue duty at Kinston and the railroad and wagon bridges near that place.

The brigade will at once proceed to construct the proper defenses for the protection of the bridges and railroad depot under the direction of the chief engineer, and will furnish all details that may be required by the quartermaster at Kinston for fatigue duty. The brigade commander will continue to report to Brigadier-General Palmer as heretofore.

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By command of Major-General Schofield:

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 30. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO, *New Berne, N. C., March 17, 1865.*

I. The detachment of the signal corps serving in the department will be organized as follows:

First. At department headquarters: One lieutenant as chief signal officer; one lieutenant, adjutant, officer in charge of records; one lieutenant, quartermaster, ordnance officer, and property officer commanding depot camp. The number of enlisted men will be determined as occasion may require.

Second. Two officers, two sergeants, with as many privates (not exceeding twelve) as the force of the department will allow, will be assigned to each division headquarters (provided such division is an independent command) for permanent duty.

Third. The officers and enlisted men not thus detached will constitute a reserve for service upon special expeditions, supplying temporary stations, completing lines of communication when the force at division headquarters may be inadequate, and for similar emergencies. This reserve to be at the depot camp.

Fourth. The entire detachment to be mounted and supplied with one light spring wagon for every two officers; heavier transportation to be allowed the property officers at department headquarters. Lieut. E. H. Russell, chief signal officer, is charged with the execution of this order.

II. Lieut. R. Williams, having been assigned to duty as depot ordnance officer at this place, is charged with the following duties, viz: The care of the ordnance and ordnance stores in and about Wilmington in the manner prescribed by the chief ordnance officer, Department of North Carolina, and orders and circulars governing the ordnance department. The superintendence of the ordnance in Forts Fisher, Caswell, the defenses of Cape Fear River, and at Smithville, N. C., to see that all is properly accounted for, repaired, and kept in order. To keep in Wilmington a supply of ammunition, not exceeding 200 rounds per gun for the troops in the district for small-arms, and 200 rounds per gun for artillery. Lieutenant Williams will be governed by his experience in ordnance duties and the instructions of the commanding general and chief ordnance officer, Department of North Carolina. Commanding officers and the quartermaster's department are requested to furnish Lieutenant Williams all assistance in their power to the performance of the duties of his office.

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By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Kinston, N. C., March 17, 1865.

Major WHERRY, *Aide-de-Camp:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the cavalry of this command under Col. James W. Savage, Twelfth New York Cavalry, made a reconnaissance to-day, crossing Falling Creek about four miles above the Goldsborough road. A short distance beyond the creek they met a rebel cavalry picket and drove them in upon their main force, about 100 strong, who speedily retreated. Our force pursued them for four miles on the gallop and succeeded in capturing seventeen prisoners, among them the surgeon of the Sixth North Carolina Cavalry. Colonel Savage reports that the railroad bridge over Falling Creek is wholly destroyed. The span is from sixty to seventy feet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Kinston, March 17, 1865.

Col. W. W. WRIGHT, *Chief Engineer, &c., New Berne:*

Cannot the trains be now unloaded at the burnt saw-mill one mile and a half below Wise's Forks? The steam-boats are not getting up and our trains are not large enough to haul stores from Dover here. It will beside save some bad road. Please have it done unless some very strong reason exists to the contrary.

J. D. COX,
Major-General, Commanding.

NEW BERNE, *March 17, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX:

The trains of supplies cannot be run beyond Dover without interfering more or less with construction of the road, until we get the track to the river. It takes some little time, even after the rails are down, to surface up the track and make it so that trains can pass over it safely. However, if you wish, we will try running trains to the end crossing you name in your dispatch, but unless the quartermaster has them unloaded promptly it will cause serious delay to construction.

W. W. WRIGHT,
Colonel and Chief Engineer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Kinston, March 17, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. N. COUCH,
Comdg. Second and Third Divisions, 23d Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to ask you to see that all the ties necessary to complete the railroad to the river shall be gotten out, and also that you open two or three good wagon roads from your headquarters to the railroad near the bridge. Your communication of this p. m. containing information of Colonel Strickland's progress is just received, and meets with the major-general commanding's approval.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 10. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 23D ARMY CORPS,
Kinston, N. C., March 17, 1865.

I. Capt. R. C. Taggart, Company C, One hundred and fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, having reported in compliance with Special Orders, No. 28, current series, from these headquarters, is hereby announced as acting assistant inspector-general for this division. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Brigadier-General Reilly:

CHAS. D. RHODES,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 12. } HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
In the Field, N. C., March 17, 1865.

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IV. Commanders of brigades will at once construct secure earth-works in the front of their lines. The left of the First Brigade will connect with the right of General Ruger's line of works, and the line will be made continuous from that point to the right of the brigade of Colonel Claassen, the extreme right of which will be well thrown to the rear. This completed, strong abatis will be constructed in front of the line, and the neighboring works and thickets sufficiently slashed to make all approaches from the front as difficult as possible.

V. The brigade of General Harland is designated for the duty ordered in Special Orders, No. 5, paragraph II, current series, from the headquarters Department of North Carolina, Army of the Ohio.

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By command of Brigadier-General Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCHING ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
South Washington, N. C., March 17, 1865.

The command will move to-morrow at 10 a. m., General Paine's division leading, followed by the pontoon train. General Ames' division will follow, one brigade being detailed as rear guard to follow the train and furnish the necessary details to assist it upon the road.

By command of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *March 17, 1865.*

Lieut. R. W. REID,
Fort Fisher:

Proceed with your troops to Beaufort, N. C., and report to the commanding officer, who will forward them to their respective regiments, which are with General Schofield, as soon as possible. If you have mails or passengers for Wilmington transfer them to the Hancox, if possible.

GEO. S. DODGE,
Brevet Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 16.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, *Charleston, S. C., March 17, 1865.*

George A. Gardner is hereby announced as aide-de-camp on the staff of the brigadier-general commanding, with the rank of captain, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

Lieut. George L. Burger, Fifty-fourth New York Volunteers, is hereby announced as acting aide-de-camp on the staff of the brigadier-general commanding, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch:

LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 18, 1865.*

Brigadier-General DYER,
Chief of Ordnance, Washington:

There must be a large amount of ordnance and ordnance stores in the Departments of North Carolina and the South, which can not be of use in either of these departments and much of which might answer to fill requisitions from other parts of the country. It probably will be advisable to send siege stores from Charleston to Mobile Bay without waiting requisitions.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Twenty-seven Miles from Goldsborough, March 18, 1865—2 p. m.

General O. O. HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: The Fourteenth Corps is here, but the Twentieth is well back. It started from Averasborough and North River with Kilpatrick to the north of the road. We heard some musketry and artillery in that direction, but Colonel Poe left Mingo Creek, which he bridged, at 11, at which time the Twentieth Corps was half a mile behind. We cannot get any farther to-day. Davis may go a couple miles farther to the forks of the road. I think this road, the Averasborough and Goldsborough road, will lead to Cox's Bridge, though it is represented as passing three miles south of Bentonville. Get on to the right-hand road so that Geary and his trains may take that to Goldsborough via Cox's Bridge. I think the enemy is concentrated about Smithland [Smithfield] and I cannot make out whether Goldsborough is held in force or not. I think it probable that Joe Johnston will try to prevent our getting Goldsborough. We find a good deal of forage to-day, but the roads still cut deep. I hope the sun of to-day will dry them up good.

Our map is evidently faulty. Can't you send me, to-night, a sketch of the country toward Dead Fields, Everettsville, and Faison's? I fear Slocum will be jammed with all his trains in a narrow space; but at the same time I don't want to push you off too far till this flank is better covered by the Neuse.

Slocum is back with the Twentieth Corps and as soon as I hear from him I will send over to you. Morgan's division found a couple of Hampton's regiments here, but they cleared out toward the north as soon as he deployed skirmishers.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Alex. Benton's House, N. C., March 18, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: I am going into camp near this point. It is on what is called the new Goldsborough road, and is about one mile from Lee's Store and about five miles from Troublefield's Store. General Blair will be not far from Troublefield's Store to-night and the trains will be between that point and Beaman's Cross-Roads. I have suggested to General Geary that he had better encamp near Lee's Store. I heard some cannonading on my left this morning, but it ceased by the time I reached Lee's Store. From the last named place Goldsborough is equidistant by the old road and the new.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, March 18, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Present:

GENERAL: Slocum is up. The firing you heard was Kilpatrick, who found parties picketing roads to the north. He reports Hardee retreating on Smithfield, and Joe Johnston collecting his old Georgia army this side of Raleigh. I know that he will call in all minor posts, which embraces Goldsborough. You may, therefore, move straight for Goldsborough, leaving Slocum the river road, and, if possible, the one from Lee's Store toward Falling Waters. Make a break into Goldsborough from the south, and let your scouts strike out for Schofield at Kinston, though I hope to meet him at Goldsborough. Our roads are very bad, but I think the Fourteenth Corps will be at Cox's Bridge to-morrow night, and will aim to strike the railroad to the northwest of Goldsborough. If any change occurs I will notify you to-night.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Benton's Cross-Roads, N. C., March 18, 1865—6.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

GENERAL: I think that General Geary would do well to follow my four light divisions on the new Goldsborough road. I understand that I have kept entirely out of his way, and shall be able to remain so. If he goes to my left it will bring the whole corps on one road. I have already suggested this to General Geary. It is currently reported by

the citizens that Goldsborough is occupied by General Schofield's forces. Please find inclosed a rough sketch* of the roads, made by Captain Reese, from information derived from the citizens.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, March 18, 1865.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Slocum for his information.

By order of Major-General Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

To be returned.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 64.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Benton's Cross-Roads, N. C., March 18, 1865.

I. Each corps of this command, following the general directions indicated in the order of march for to-day, will move forward to-morrow and endeavor to cross with each head of column the road leading south of Cox's Bridge, through Falling Creek, Old Court-House, &c. These headquarters will follow the leading division of the Fifteenth Army Corps.

* * * * * * *

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Ingram's Plantation, N. C., March 18, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: I respectfully report nothing of particular or unusual interest has occurred in my division to-day. I marched out in rear of General John E. Smith at 9 a. m., finding good roads for the greater part of the march. Now, at 5.30 p. m., I am in camp with everything at Ingram's plantation on the Clinton road, covering the road in the direction of Clinton with one brigade, and with my remaining brigade encamped on a plantation road leading toward Goldsborough. I report four men from these headquarters captured while foraging near Fayetteville. My headquarters are at Ingram's plantation.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. TRAIN GUARD, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near South River, March 18, 1865—3 a. m.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I am camped about one mile and a half east of South River, having crossed the last wagon at 5.30

* Omitted.

o'clock yesterday afternoon. If General Blair's pontoons are sent to the Little Cohera so as not to detain me, I can cross that stream to-day. The roads for several miles ahead are said to be very bad. I cannot promise to make Beaman's Cross-Roads before day after to-morrow some time in the day—that is to say, on the 20th.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. WOODS,
Brevet Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. TRAIN GUARD, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On the Road, March 18, 1865—8 a. m.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I think I made a mistake in my note of this morning as to the time I expect to reach Beaman's Cross-Roads. I think I named day after to-morrow, the 20th. I meant to say to-morrow, the 19th. I have just heard from the river and learn that the pontoons will be ready for use by the time we reach there. We are making very good progress this morning, but the roads are awful.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. WOODS,
Brevet Brigadier-General, Commanding Train Guard.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Benton's Cross-Roads, N. C., March 18, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this division broke camp at 7 o'clock this a. m., and following the Second Division marched eleven miles on Bentonville road to Monk's plantation, thence one mile on Clinton road to Benton's Cross-Roads, encamping on the Bentonville road at 3 p. m. The position of the troops is as follows: The First Brigade is in line, its right connecting with the left of the Second Division, and its left resting on the Bentonville road, fronting east. The Second Brigade is on the left of the First Brigade, in column by regiments, fronting east, its right resting on the road and its left on a swamp. Artillery and trains are in rear of First and Second Brigades. Headquarters are on south side of the road and 250 yards in rear of the left of First Brigade. In compliance with instructions from the major-general commanding corps, a regiment, (Sixty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry) was sent to reconnoiter the Bentonville road. It moved out four miles without meeting any force, but three-fourths of a mile farther on a small mounted force accompanying the regiment met and drove in a strong cavalry picket post. At this point, from the best information obtained, two regiments of cavalry and one battery were stationed until 2 o'clock this p. m. They had thrown up intrenchments of rails and earth. At the above-mentioned hour they fell back to the forks of the Smithfield and Goldsborough roads.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Newton's Grove, N. C., March 18, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that in compliance with orders from corps headquarters, I broke camp at 9.30 a. m. this instant, moving in rear of the First Division of this corps upon the Goldsborough road, crossing both Little and Big Cohera Rivers to Newton's Grove, and from thence upon the Clinton road a distance of half a mile, where two brigades of my command and battery are in bivouac and position. One brigade is in position at Newton's Grove covering the Fayetteville and Goldsborough and Smithfield and Clinton roads, and so posted as to prevent a surprise from the enemy's cavalry, and can be easily withdrawn upon my main line. My command has made a march of ten miles over heavy roads.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 47. HDQRS. 4TH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Newton's Grove, N. C., March 18, 1865.

I. The troops composing this division will break camp at 8 a. m. tomorrow (the 19th instant), moving upon the road toward Goldsborough. The order of brigades as follows: Second, Third, First. Five regiments will move in advance and two in rear of trains; the remainder of the troops upon the right flank of trains. Trains well closed up and in same order as heretofore, trains of brigades alternating in their position in the column according to the position of brigades.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Benton's Cross-Roads, N. C., March 18, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: From information I have just received I understand that you are much farther advanced than I supposed you would get to-day. With this column I will probably reach the vicinity of the point marked Dead Fields on the map to-morrow. Please shorten your march so as not to get too far off.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 69. HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Piney Grove Cross-Roads, N. C., March 18, 1865.

The First Division, Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower commanding, will move forward to-morrow on the direct road to Everettsville, making as near that point as practicable. The bridge train, Lieutenant-Colonel Tweeddale commanding, will follow the train of the First Division. The Third

Division, Brig. Gen. M. F. Force commanding, will move forward on the Mount Olive road at 7 a. m. The Fourth Division, Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith commanding, will follow the Third Division. The detachment of department headquarters' train will move next after the train of the Fourth Division.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 18.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, N. C., March 18, 1865.

The general commanding wishes to convey to the officers and men under his command his high appreciation of their zeal and industry during the present campaign. The labor required in moving our trains during the wet weather and the bridges destroyed by the enemy, which it was necessary to rebuild, has been very arduous, but performed with the utmost cheerfulness. He is proportionately displeased with the conduct of the commanding officers of the two regiments, Eleventh and Thirteenth Iowa, assigned to the train yesterday. Instead of using their force to repair the roads and having the train in at 8 o'clock, as it should have been, they left it stuck in the mud and moved their commands into camp. This culpable neglect not only delayed our own train until near midnight, but was a great annoyance to the division moving in our rear. This order will be read to the command as soon as practicable after its receipt.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. Giles A. Smith:

[AD. WARE, JR.,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Near Bentonville, N. C., March 18, 1865.

General DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you start your command at 7 o'clock to-morrow morning and move to Cox's Bridge. He wishes you to send a regiment in advance of your column to the road leading across Mill Creek toward Smithfield, to remain until relieved by a regiment from the Twentieth Corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 24.

HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Colonel Easton's Plantation, N. C., March 18, 1865.

General Carlin will march at 6 a. m. upon the road indicated in Special Field Orders, No. 23.* General Morgan will follow General Carlin. Corps headquarters will move with General Carlin.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

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*See p. 878.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Lee's House, Seven Miles east of Mingo Creek, March 18, 1865—7 p. m.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: I have reached this point with my First Division, and the trains are coming in. General Ward, with the bulk of the train, is still back, but will make this point to-night; but he will probably be late, as the roads have been bad, requiring much work. I shall start at daylight in the morning and push on as rapidly as possible. I understand that a brigade of General Kilpatrick's cavalry are encamped at the cross-roads six miles back from here; they came up from our rear.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Lee's House, March 18, 1865.

This command will move to-morrow in the same order as to-day, the First Division starting promptly at 6 a. m., the Third Division starting in time to keep closed up to the trains of the preceding command. General Jackson will march two brigades in advance, and will make all necessary repairs to the road. He will cover with his other brigade his own train, and the ambulance train. General Ward will cover his own trains with one brigade, the other two will march in rear of all trains. One battery of artillery will report to General Ward, to march with the rear guard; the balance of the artillery will march in rear of the troops of General Jackson's division. The Michigan Engineers with their tool wagons will follow the advanced artillery, starting at 6.30 a. m. The balance of their wagons will follow the wagons of the First Division. The ambulance train will follow the tool wagons of the Michigan Engineers.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:
CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Benton's Cross-Roads, March 18, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. JOHN W. GEARY,
Commanding Second Division, Twentieth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that the head of our column reached this point and commenced going into camp at 11.30 a. m. Our headquarters are near the house of Mr. Benton, on the new Goldsborough road, about a mile and a half from Blackman Lee's Store. The general thinks that you may be able to reach this point (Lee's Store) with your trains to-night, as the roads are very good. We heard skirmishing on our left this morning, probably between the foragers of the Fourteenth Corps and the enemy; also some artillery firing in the same direction, which likely you heard also.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Lee's Store is twenty-six miles from Goldsborough.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Benton's Cross-Roads, March 18, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN W. GEARY,
Commanding Second Division, Twentieth Army Corps:

GENERAL: It is reported to me, but I think it a mistake, that you have taken a right-hand road leading to Troublefield's Store. If you have done so, I think you had better take a left-hand road and come to this road; for if you move on the lower one you will get in rear of all my trains, which will put you back at least two days. The road I am now on is called the Goldsborough new road. It leads to the right from the direct road I have been traveling on, a short distance south of Falling Creek, and strikes the other road near the point Dead Fields.

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Black River, N. C., March 18, 1865.

Brigadier-General WARD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The cavalry are having some fighting near Mingo Creek. The troops of the First Division are ordered forward. The general directs that you take charge of the whole train and bring it forward as rapidly as possible. The troops of the First Division that were sent to the rear to help forward some wagons are also ordered up, so that if the men are needed there you will have to replace them. The general wishes you to send one brigade across to this side as soon as possible, to cover the wagons as they come over. It can be halted on this side if necessary.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Kinston, March 18, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I have received your several dispatches from Fayetteville, including that of the 14th. I regret extremely that I am not able to accomplish all that you have wished. There has been no enemy in my front since the defeat of Bragg on the 10th. The question of going to Goldsborough has been simply one of supplies. Lieutenant-Colonel Twining will explain to you the situation here, and bring me your orders. I shall be most happy to join you again and take the place you have assigned me in the grand army.

Most truly, yours,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 18, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

General Easton has ordered all transportation for you to be stopped at Morehead and this place. Is it in accordance with instructions from you? Will the regiment on boats return with them, or remain at the

front? General Birge knows of no other troops coming from the south. One brigade of his division remains at Savannah and two come here. Two regiments and some detachments are still behind, and it is feared lost at sea.

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

KINSTON, *March 18, 1865.*

Brigadier-General SCHOFIELD, *New Berne:*

The detention of transportation at Morehead and New Berne is by my direction. I thought I had informed you. General Sherman can spare all the teams I want. The regiment on the boats will return as a guard.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

MOREHEAD CITY, N. C., *March 18, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

It is absolutely necessary to have more men here. Can't you order the balance of the Third Brigade, Second Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, here? There are two regiments absent, One hundred and twenty-eighth and One hundred and seventy-fifth New York Volunteers. The labor here is immense, and we are unable to get citizens. If you can get any negroes at the front please send them to me.

L. C. EASTON,
Chief Quartermaster.

MOREHEAD CITY, N. C., *March 18, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD:

I wish you would order General Dodge up here. I would like very much to have his services on this line for awhile. Our facilities are so very few that it will require great efforts to supply the army. Colonel Conklin is now in charge of the distribution of stores at the front. I am sending him clothing as rapidly as possible.

L. C. EASTON,
Chief Quartermaster.

KINSTON, *March 18, 1865.*

Brigadier-General SCHOFIELD:

General Easton asks for more men at Morehead, and names the One hundred and twenty-eighth and One hundred and seventy-fifth New York, which belongs to the brigade now there. Send him those if they are available. If not, send others. Let him have all the men he wants.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
New Berne, N. C., March 18, 1865.

Maj. WILLIAM M. WHERRY, *Senior Aide-de-Camp:*

For the information of the major-general commanding, I have the honor to inform you that I have made the following arrangements in

regard to the troops from the south: The four regiments of the Third Brigade, Second Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, now at Morehead City, I have thought best to leave there for General Easton, and in addition have offered to send him a fraction of the Twenty-eighth Iowa, now here, if he needs them. This regiment belongs to the Second Brigade of same division, but is less than half here; balance not yet arrived at Morehead. The two regiments now en route to the front, repairing wagon roads (viz, One hundred and twenty-eighth and One hundred and seventy-fifth New York), belong to the Third Brigade, but I presume it will not be thought expedient to return them for the purpose of again getting the brigade together. In addition to these two regiments of the Third Brigade I propose to send two regiments of the Second Brigade, viz, Twenty-second Iowa and One hundred and thirty-first New York, forward at once. The four regiments will then be under command of Colonel Graham, Twenty second Iowa, now commanding Second Brigade, who, I am told, is a good officer. The four regiments will amount to about 1,170 officers and men. The regiment now on transports going forward to Kinston belongs to the Second Brigade. I think that with the few troops doing post duty, the quartermaster's employés, and the negroes that could be commanded in case of necessity, all the necessary work can be done here with sufficient rapidity. As soon as the other regiments of the Second Brigade arrive (if they arrive at all), I will send them forward unless otherwise ordered.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

KINSTON, *March 18, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Headquarters Department of North Carolina:

The commanding general directs that you order all officers belonging to General Sherman's army now in New Berne to report to him at these headquarters in the field.

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

KINSTON, *March 18, 1865.*

Col. W. W. WRIGHT,
Chief Engineer Military Railroads, New Berne:

I am directed by the major-general commanding to ask you to have all stores for the front unloaded at Burnt Mill. This, he thinks, ought not to interfere with the construction, and the quartermaster will be directed to have everything unloaded promptly.

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 17.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
New Berne, N. C., March 18, 1865.

All able-bodied men within the lines of the army who have no legitimate employment are required to report without delay to the nearest provost-marshal for enrollment, in order that they may be employed in the quartermaster's department. Provost-marshals will take measures

to secure full compliance with this order within their respective jurisdictions. The names of all persons enrolled will be reported to Brig. Gen. L. C. Easton, chief quartermaster Military Division of the Mississippi, and upon his requisition, such number as he may require will be ordered to report to him for labor in the quartermaster's department. They will, while so employed receive the usual compensation and subsistence. Hereafter the commissary department will not issue rations to any person not in the Government service, except such as are unable from age or infirmity to work, and are actually dependent upon charity for their support. There is work enough for all, and none will be allowed to live in idleness while supported by the Government. The general commanding the District of Beaufort will cause this order to be strictly complied with.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 6. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, Kinston, March 18, 1865.

I. The troops will be prepared to march at 6 a. m. to-morrow, with three days' rations in haversacks, and seventy rounds of ammunition (thirty in knapsacks). All available wagons will be filled with subsistence stores and forage, and will follow the troops as soon as practicable.

II. Lieut. Jasper Myers, chief of ordnance, Department of North Carolina, will cause to be established a temporary ordnance depot for the supply of the army in the field. This depot will be transferred to the front as rapidly as the facilities for transportation by railroad will permit.

III. Maj. Gen. J. D. Cox is relieved from command of the District of Beaufort, but will retain his present command of troops in the field. Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer will resume command of his district, and will hereafter report directly to these headquarters. Brig. Gen. S. P. Carter is assigned to command the division of the District of Beaufort, serving with the army in the field, and Brig. Gen. G. S. Greene to the command of the Provisional Division, composed of troops belonging to the Armies of the Tennessee and Cumberland.

IV. Surg. S. C. Whittier, Twenty-third Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, is hereby detailed as surgeon in charge of depot hospital, Kinston, N. C.

V. Lieut. E. F. Everett, Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, is hereby detailed for special duty in the ordnance department, and will report to Lieut. Jasper Myers, chief of ordnance, Department of North Carolina, for instructions.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 10. } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
Kinston, N. C., March 18, 1865.

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III. All the troops of the provisional brigades of this command, and those especially assigned to regiments of regular organizations, will report without delay to Brigadier-General Greene for organization into a provisional division,

IV. All the troops of the First Division of the District of Beaufort serving in the field, except the brigade and battery detached under the command of Brigadier-General Harland, will report without delay to Brig. Gen. S. P. Carter, to be consolidated with the remaining troops of the Second Division, District of Beaufort, which will hereafter be known as the division of the District of Beaufort.

V. The battery of 3-inch ordnance guns at present serving with the First Division, District of Beaufort, will report until further orders to Brigadier-General Greene, commanding Provisional Division.

VI. The staff of the First Division, District of Beaufort, in the field, excepting the personal staff of Brigadier-General Palmer, will report for temporary duty to Brigadier-General Greene, commanding Provisional Division.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 13.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
In the Field, N. C., March 18, 1865.

I. In accordance with orders from headquarters Department of North Carolina, this division, with the exception of the brigade of General Harland, will be prepared to march at 6 a. m. to-morrow with three days' rations in their haversacks and seventy rounds of ammunition (thirty in knapsacks). All available wagons will be filled with subsistence stores and forage, and will follow the troops as soon as possible. The division commissary train will undoubtedly be here to-night, when the haversacks can be filled. If there be lack of ammunition in the command, plenty of .574 can be procured at these headquarters. The following will be the order of march should the troops be ordered to move: First, the brigade of Colonel Claassen, followed by his 3-inch battery, and, second, the brigade of Colonel Boughton, immediately in rear of which all the wagons ready to move will march. Those subsequently loaded will follow. Brigade commanders will leave a small guard to bring up any wagons that remain behind to load. Colonel Boughton will detail from his command a strong rear guard under a commissioned officer to march in rear of the first wagons, with orders to suppress all pillaging and straggling.

* * * * * * *

IV. The Fifteenth Connecticut Volunteers and Battery A, Third New York Artillery (dismounted), having been transferred from Second Division, District of Beaufort, to this division, they are assigned to duty with the First Brigade, and will report to Brigadier-General Harland, commanding.

By command of Brigadier-General Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 61.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Near Island Creek, N. C., March 18, 1865.

I. General Paine's division will again lead the march to-morrow and will move at 7 a. m. General Ames' division will follow, one brigade being detailed as rear guard to follow the train and render it such

assistance as it may require. The pontoon train will follow the troops. General Ames' division will commence crossing Island Creek at 6 a. m. to-morrow.

By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 18, 1865.

Capt. W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers and 100 men of the Fifty-fourth New York Volunteers embarked yesterday on the steamer New York, with orders to proceed to the mouth of Cape Fear River and there report to the commanding officer of the U. S. forces for orders.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. HATCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

FALLING CREEK CHURCH,
March 19, 1865—1.15 p. m.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding-in-Chief, &c.:

GENERAL: One of General Logan's scouts has just returned from the bridge across the Neuse before Goldsborough and reports that the crossing is defended by a bridge-head held by the rebels. The Seventh Illinois Mounted Infantry is at the bridge before the works.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 65.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Falling Creek Church, N. C., March 19, 1865.

The following operations of this command will take place to-morrow: Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, commanding Fifteenth Army Corps, will move one brigade with a section of artillery and drive the enemy across Cox's Bridge and get possession of the same or force the enemy to destroy it. He will then immediately move the rest of his command toward Bentonville. Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair, commanding Seventeenth Army Corps, will move as rapidly as possible to Falling Creek Church, and taking the road to the left, move out and take position on the left of the Fifteenth Army Corps. All wagons now here, including those of department headquarters, which are not required during our engagement, will be parked at the cross-roads near Cox's Bridge. The surplus trains will be parked closely and carefully so that their guard, which is necessarily small, may be able to protect them against the enemy's cavalry.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Falling Creek Church, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: General Sherman thinks that the whole of General John E. Smith's division should be sent out to the position at the forks of the road with his artillery, but without wagons. General Woods will be directed to occupy the position now occupied by General Smith's division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Falling Creek Church, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: In accordance with instructions received from Major-General Sherman, the general commanding directs that General Hazen's division return by the road the column moved out on to-day, by the way of Blackman Lee's Store, and go into position as General Slocum may direct. A staff officer of General Slocum now at these headquarters will accompany one of yours, and consult with him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BEAMAN'S CROSS-ROADS, N. C., *March 19, 1865—6 a. m.*

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the corps trains completed crossing the Little Cohera at 8.15 p. m. yesterday. The bridge was good and so were the roads for a few miles this side, but the last three or four miles were very bad indeed, and difficult to pass them after night set in. The rear of the last division train came into camp 4 o'clock this morning. If the roads are not too bad to-day we will move up fifteen or twenty miles. I am advised by General Woods that a company of Fourth Division pioneers reported to him yesterday morning about the time I wrote you. I did not know it then. They were very serviceable to us yesterday and last night. The First Division train is now (6.15) all out on the road, and the Fourth, Second, Third, and supply trains will follow in the order mentioned.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. L. FORT,
Lieut. Col. and Chief Quartermaster, Fifteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Neuse River, March 19, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that in compliance with your orders I broke my camp this a. m., marching out in rear of the Third Division. The roads I found to be very bad in places, more particularly at the

crossing of Falling Creek, and my advance was considerably delayed in consequence. Passing beyond General John E. Smith's camp this evening I continued as directed on the road leading to Cox's Bridge, halting when some three miles and a half from the bridge, and half a mile from the point of intersection as made by the Bentonville road, encamping my two brigades in position in the line designated by Lieutenant-Colonel Strong, assistant inspector-general, Department of the Tennessee. I have put my battery on the line between my brigades. Good substantial works are being rapidly thrown up along my entire front, and I am also building a barbette work for my guns. My line faces westward, connecting on the right with Colonel Wever, of Second Brigade, Third Division, my headquarters being located at the cemetery near the road in rear. Inclosed find list of casualties since last report, as received by me this evening.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

BIG COHERA RIVER, *March 19, 1865—7 a. m.*

Major WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: The rear of the train reached Beaman's Cross-Roads at 4 o'clock this morning. The head of the column is now at this place. The crossing here is bad, although the bridge is standing. I shall push on as far as possible to-day. I made thirteen miles and bridged and crossed the Little Cohera yesterday.

Respectfully,

W. B. WOODS,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Falling Creek Post-Office, March 19, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. B. HAZEN,
Commanding Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Major-General Slocum needs aid quick. You will please move your command back via Blackman Lee's Store, and from there, under direction of General Slocum's senior aide-de-camp, across to the Left Wing, reporting to Major-General Slocum.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Blackman Lee's Store, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that this command remained in camp at this point all day till 5 p. m., waiting for other troops to pass. It then moved in rear of the Fourth Division to King's house, seven miles, when orders were received to retrace the march and report to Major General Slocum.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Falling Creek Post-Office, March 19, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. E. SMITH,
Commanding Third Division, Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you send two strong companies of infantry to Falling Creek bridge, about one mile and a half in advance of your present picket-line, on the Goldsborough road, to prevent the destruction of the same.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Falling Creek Post-Office, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Maj. M. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the following as the operations of this division for the day: Broke camp near Newton's Grove Cross-Roads at 6 a. m. and moved in advance on Goldsborough road, the advance of the command arriving at Falling Creek Post-Office at 11.30 a. m., at which point a halt was ordered to enable the First Brigade and a portion of the train which had become mired at and beyond Falling Creek to close up on the advance. It being reported that parties of the enemy were on our front, I sent one regiment of the Second Brigade out about a quarter of a mile on the Cox's Bridge road, and one about three-quarters of a mile out on the Goldsborough road as advance guards. Pickets were also thrown out on the left flank. At about 2 p. m. I was ordered by Major-General Howard to cause one regiment to report to Lieut. Col. William E. Strong, of his staff, to go out to near Cox's Bridge for the purpose of driving off the enemy's picket post established at that point. I sent the Tenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and am informed by one of my staff, who accompanied the regiment, they succeeded in developing about 250 rebel cavalry, and in driving them back to within a quarter of a mile of Cox's Bridge. At 3 p. m. I was ordered to encamp the division, and while attending to the same, orders were received to send the remainder of the Second Brigade to the support of the Tenth Iowa, which, learning it was in a dangerous position, I had ordered to fall back. This order, I was afterward informed, was countermanded by Major-General Logan. The entire brigade is now encamped near the First Division, at the Cox's Bridge and Everettsville cross-roads. At about the same time that I was ordered to send the Second Brigade forward I was also ordered to change the position of the First Brigade, and accordingly moved it forward about 500 yards and placed it in position on the west side of and its right resting on the Cox's Bridge road, fronting north; artillery immediately in rear of the center of the brigade. At 6.30 p. m. I was ordered to send one regiment as an advance post out on the Goldsborough road, from which the regiment from the Second Brigade had been taken during the p. m., and to place one regiment in rear of the left of the remainder of the brigade covering approaches from the west, and at 8.45 p. m. to send two companies out to Falling Creek bridge, one mile and a half from the picket post on the Goldsborough road, all of which was complied with. Distance marched, fifteen miles.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Goldsborough Road, two Miles from Neuse River, March 19, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the movements of my division for to-day as follows: Breaking camp at 8 a. m. I moved in rear of the First Division of this corps to this point, a distance of fifteen miles, where a portion of my command is now in position and intrenching themselves as well as they can under the circumstances. At this hour (12 midnight) I have but five regiments of my division up to this point, one brigade having been placed in position six miles to the rear, as is supposed by the order of the major-general commanding corps, the Sixty-sixth Illinois Volunteers of the Second Brigade being left on the Smithfield road. A portion only of my brigade trains have yet made the crossing of Falling Creek. The remainder, with train of headquarters military division, are still on the other side, and from the appearance of the swamp at present it would seem impossible to get them over for several hours. My pioneer corps is all engaged in assisting my train across, and the tool wagons of the brigades are still on the opposite side of the creek, which will prove a serious obstacle to the rapid construction of my works, but as soon as I can bring forward the corps of pioneers and furnish the tools the work will be prosecuted vigorously, and I think I can hold my position with the troops of my division now at hand. One of my staff officers just in reports it impossible to pass any more wagons over Falling Creek until a bridge is constructed.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Falling Creek Church, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Major-General BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: General Slocum reports having met a very large force and thinks that Johnston's whole army is confronting him. The general commanding directs that you do not move farther forward at present, but that you get your trains well closed up, so that you may put them under guard and be ready to move up, disencumbered of wagons, to the support of the Left Wing at a moment's notice, and for that purpose you reconnoiter carefully all roads leading in this direction. The inclosed dispatch* is from General Sherman, who wishes you to send it by some careful, trustworthy person through to General Schofield, who is supposed to be advancing on Goldsborough, and is probably near Kinston.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FALLING CREEK, [*March 19, 1865*]—*4.30 p. m.*

Major-General BLAIR, Jr.:

DEAR GENERAL: General Sherman has concluded to concentrate here. Please mass your trains close where they are, and move up here

* See Sherman to Schofield, 5 p. m., p. 910.

with at least two divisions disencumbered. I think you might let Mower leave a small brigade, and bring up his other two and battery. Leave with the train with you as small a guard as will be effective against a brigade of cavalry and come with the balance. The officer you sent me to-day will know the route. Please start at 3 a. m. to-morrow.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Smith's Chapel, N. C., March 19, 1865—9.30 p. m.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: Information has just been received, through the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, that General Terry reached Faison's this afternoon on a train; that his command was back and would encamp about five miles below that point to-night. I have sent General Terry copies of General Howard's orders to me and have forwarded the dispatches for General Schofield by a detachment of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry through General Terry.

Very respectfully,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Smith's Chapel, N. C., March 19, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER THIRTEENTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY:

COLONEL: I am directed by General Blair to send you the inclosed dispatch* for General Schofield, with the request that you will proceed with it if practicable to Kinston, where General Schofield now is. Nothing has been heard from General Terry as yet. Should anything be heard to-night I will inform you of it. The cannonading heard to-day was in front of the Fourteenth Corps. They were opposed by cavalry with four pieces of artillery. The fighting is not supposed to have been severe. Our left division will move to Everettsville to-morrow and the two divisions encamped here to Mount Olive. The dispatch may be an important one and we have no cavalry with which to send it, so that the general is obliged to call on you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Smith's Chapel, N. C., March 19, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER THIRTEENTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY:

SIR: The inclosed dispatch† has just been received from army headquarters, and General Blair has been directed by General Sherman to send it to General Schofield by some "careful, trustworthy person." Either this dispatch or the one sent you for General S. this evening is evidently of great importance. This one is probably a cipher dispatch.

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*See Sherman to Schofield, 2 p. m., p. 910.
†See Sherman to Schofield, 5 p. m., p. 910.

In view of the probable importance of the dispatches, the major-general commanding orders that you send at as early an hour as practicable to-morrow a detachment of your command to Kinston and communicate with General Schofield at that point or wherever he may be, delivering these dispatches. We have received orders to move to Falling Creek at 3 a. m. to-morrow to the support of General Slocum, who reports that he has met a large force, and thinks the whole of Johnston's army is confronting him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 70. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Smith's Chapel, N. C., March 19, 1865.*

The orders for to-morrow are as follows: Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will leave with his train his smallest brigade and will move forward with the rest of his command on the most direct route to Falling Creek, at 3 a. m., reporting to Major-General Howard at that point. The commanding generals of the Third and Fourth Divisions will leave with their trains one regiment each as guard, to be under command of the senior officer, and the trains will remain in their present position until further orders. Major-General Mower's train will remain in its present position until further orders. Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will move forward on the road to Falling Creek at 3 a. m. The Third Division, Brig. Gen. M. F. Force commanding, will follow the Fourth Division. Headquarters and regimental train and ambulances, with ten ordnance wagons, will move with each division. The trains of the Third and Fourth Divisions will be parked close together, and the commanding officers of the regiments left as guard will take all necessary measures for its protection. Foragers will be kept with the command to-morrow, and will, under no circumstances, be permitted to leave the line of march.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 63. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 17TH ARMY CORPS, *Chapel's Church, N. C., March 19, 1865.*

This command will move forward at 3.30 a. m. to-morrow in rear of Fourth Division. The Second Brigade, Col. G. F. Wiles commanding, will have the advance. The Fifteenth Ohio Battery, Lieutenant Bailey commanding, will follow the Second Brigade. The First Brigade, Col. C. Fairchild commanding, will follow the battery. Troops will move on the right of the road. Trains in usual order. No foragers will be permitted to leave the command to-morrow.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field [March 19, 1865]—1.30 p. m.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: I am convinced that the enemy are in strong force in my front. Prisoners report Johnston, Hardee, Hoke, and others present.

They say their troops are just coming up. I shall strengthen my position and feel of their lines, but I hope you will come up on their left rear in strong force.

Yours, truly,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
March 19, 1865—2 p. m.

General SHERMAN, or
General LOGAN:

I have met [the enemy] in strong force on the road from Bentonville to Cox's Bridge. It is reported by prisoners that Johnston and Hardee are here. I think a portion of the Right Wing should be brought forward at once.

Yours, &c.,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Falling Creek Church, March 19, 1865—2 p. m.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: Howard, with one division, is now at this point, which is just three miles south of Cox's Bridge, and ten from Goldsborough. A scout is just in from Schofield, who will leave Kinston for Goldsborough to-day or to-morrow. I send him a courier to march straight for Goldsborough. Howard's four divisions are strung out, but he will push them through to-night. We occupy a position dangerous to the enemy, if he thinks he is in front of the whole army. You may strengthen your position, but feel the enemy all night. If he is there at daylight we will move straight on Cox's Bridge, and then turn toward you. I think you will find them gone in the morning. Howard has sent a regiment to Cox's Bridge. It has not reported. He has the bridge across Falling Creek, two miles east of this, toward Goldsborough. He has also some mounted men at Goldsborough, where they find a little outpost occupied by the enemy. Blair is about five miles south of this with the trains. I will order Kilpatrick to remain with you. Get up your trains between your camp and Lee's Store, and keep the enemy busy till we can get up the four divisions of the Fifteenth Corps. If you hear firing to the front not explained by your own acts you must assault and turn the enemy, for it will not do to let him fight us separately.

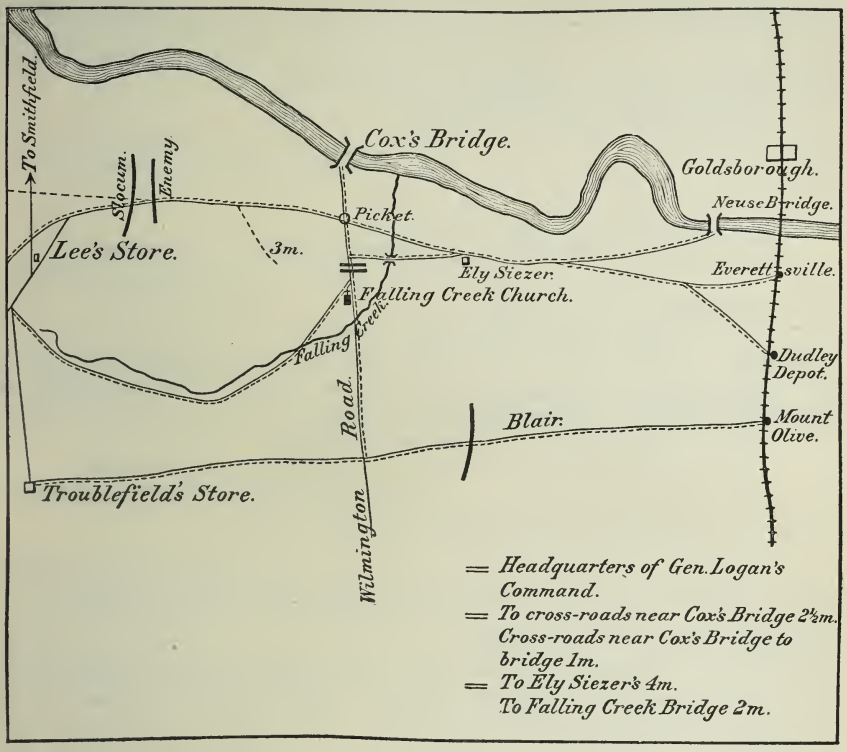
Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

P. S.—Your note of 2 p. m. is just received. Howard's regiment drove the picket from the cross-roads, one mile this side of Cox's Bridge. That will disturb the forces to your front. Howard can better help from this quarter than by returning by Lee's Store.

S.

[Inclosure.]



HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
March 19, 1865.

General SLOCUM,
Near Bentonville:

GENERAL: Call up Geary and Baird, leaving a brigade to each train. All of the Right Wing will move at moonrise toward Bentonville. Fortify and hold your position to the last, certain that all the army is coming to you as fast as possible.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

We have the bridge at Goldsborough and the cross-roads at Cox's. If you find the enemy gone at daylight, follow up, as he will turn on Howard.

SHERMAN.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
Three Miles Southeast of Bentonville, N. C.,
March 19, 1865—8 p. m.

Major-General SHERMAN,
General-in-Chief:

GENERAL: I have positive information that General Johnston is here in person with a heavy force. I feel confident of holding my position, but I deem it of the greatest importance that the Right Wing come up

during the night to my assistance. I would request that all the ammunition and empty ambulances and wagons that can be spared from the Right Wing be sent to me. From prisoners I learn that the corps and commands of Hardee, Stewart, Lee, Cheatham, Hill, and Hoke are here. I desire both infantry and artillery ammunition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Brevet Major-General DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you spend the entire night in intrenching and in making your present position as strong as possible. You may expect the Right Wing up in the morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 19, 1865.

[Bvt. Maj. Gen. JEF. C. DAVIS:]

GENERAL: I attacked the enemy with Buell's brigade and half of Hobart's, but failed to drive the enemy. The same result attended the attack on the right by Miles' brigade. The enemy is strong in men and artillery. A prisoner, a New York man, whom I have sent to you, says Hardee, Hoke, Lee's corps, and a great deal of artillery are in our front. I shall hold my present position until further orders from you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. CARLIN,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—My loss is considerable, but not definitely known.

W. P. C.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On the Field, March 19, 1865—4.30 p. m.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Slocum for information. The enemy is beyond doubt in our front in strong force, and intends to give a general engagement.

JEF. C. DAVIS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Brevet Major-General WILLIAMS,
Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you spend the entire night in intrenching and in making your present position as

strong as possible. You may expect the Right Wing up in the morning. General Slocum wishes you to intrench to the left, as far as possible, and have your reserves intrench themselves.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
March 19, 1865. (Received 12.30 a. m. 20th.)

General GEARY,
At the Train:

Rush your train. Leave one brigade and move with two others to General Slocum to-night.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Near the Smithfield Road, March 19, 1865.

General J. W. GEARY:

GENERAL: The general commanding the corps wishes you to keep as much as possible to the right, as we are marching on the road to the right and he does not wish you to strike our road, as it is in very bad condition and exposed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

The last order to me was to send you to Everettsville, and the orderly says you have been ordered by General Slocum to Cox's Bridge. If so, keep south as far as practicable to get there.

A. S. W.,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIV., TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Canaan Church, N. C., March 19, 1865.
(Received midnight.)

Lieut. Col. H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Twentieth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I am encamping at this point, which is on the Goldsborough new road, three miles from Newton Grove Post-Office. I was delayed four hours in reaching here by the Fifteenth Corps, the rear of which did not pass this point until 6 p. m. My position here is excellent, enabling me to cover the trains securely. I send this by Captain Schilling, of my staff, who will give all explanations called for and will bring back any instructions you may wish to send.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. W. GEARY,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

Brevet Major-General GEARY:

Send up to-night two brigades. We have in front the whole of Johnston's command, and have had very serious fighting all day. Send your ambulances, putting all sick in wagons. I have consulted General Slocum. If you can communicate with Fifteenth Corps, state our condition. We expect further attacks in morning. All ammunition (artillery and infantry) should be sent up.

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. —.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
Canaan Church, N. C., March 19, 1865.

The First and Third Brigades will move at once as rapidly as possible to re-enforce the other divisions of the corps. Their tool wagons will accompany them.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John W. Geary:

W. T. FORBES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAV. COMMAND, MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Nine Miles from Bentonville, N. C., March 19, 1865—10 a. m.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I am marching on the left, and at the head of the Twentieth Army Corps, which is delayed in its march by bad roads. I am getting plenty of forage, having no trouble. The enemy's cavalry has made several dashes on my flank during the march this morning. Allen's division of cavalry and six regiments of infantry encamped last night about seven miles from Mingo Creek, on the Smithfield road. Whenever I have faced in direction of Raleigh, or on roads leading toward Smithfield, I have found the enemy, and yet he retires without severe skirmishing. All the roads in direction of Raleigh and Smithfield I find strongly picketed. Lieutenant Potter, of my staff, made his escape from the enemy and joined me last night. He reports that we are expected in direction of Raleigh, and that every preparation is being made to meet us about ten miles this side—near Squire Johnson's. I shall march parallel with the Twentieth Army Corps and join you at the earliest possible moment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Falling Creek Church, March 19, 1865—5 p. m.

General KILPATRICK,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Your report of to-day is received. General Slocum thinks the whole rebel army is to his front. I cannot think Johnston

would fight us with the Neuse to his rear. You may remain with General Slocum until further orders, or until the two wings come together.

If that force remains in General Slocum's front to-morrow I will move straight on its rear.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY COMMAND,
In the Field, March 19, 1865.

General W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: The enemy in heavy force, and commanded by General Johnston in person, attacked the Fourteenth Corps to-day, captured three guns, and gained a temporary success; but our lines were finally re-established. The Twentieth Corps and my cavalry came upon the field, and took up strong positions. From 2 o'clock until dark the enemy made every effort to break our center, but he has failed in each attempt, and certainly with great loss. The information I sent you this morning was correct at the time it was received, but during yesterday afternoon and last evening he made forced marches, and is now in our front, and General Johnston is in command. He addressed his troops this morning, saying that he had 40,000 men, and that our army must and should be stopped here; that we were marching upon four roads; that he intended to fall upon one column after another, and dispose of them in detail. The fighting to-day has been splendid, and you can rely on your army in everything. I never witnessed more determined attacks than were made by the enemy to-day upon our center. Six were made one after another in rapid succession on the same men at the same point, General Robinson commanding, and yet I did not see a single soldier leave the line of battle. If you attack the enemy in flank and rear as you propose in your communication to me, Johnston's army, if it remains, is lost. Generals Slocum, Davis, Williams, and others, for several hours to-day anxiously listened, and only waited for the first sound of battle from the Army of the Tennessee, when they would have marched without halting over every opposition in front. I only hope to God that Johnston may remain for your attack, and you will achieve a triumph over the enemy such as no general can boast. You can expect everything that is brave and daring from my cavalry. The men have been to-day supplied with ammunition. We have plenty of forage, eight days' rations, are in good spirits, and shall anxiously watch for the morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Cavalry.

KINSTON, N. C., *March 19, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

The boats have at last arrived with supplies, and I shall push forward in the morning toward Goldsborough. I will go direct to Goldsborough if my information indicates that I can take that place. If not, I will put down my pontoon bridge at White Hall and communicate with you from that place.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Ten Miles southwest of Goldsborough,
Sunday, March 19, 1865—2 p. m.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Kinston:

To-night my Left Wing will be at Cox's Bridge and Right Wing within ten miles of Goldsborough. To-morrow we will cross the Neuse River at Cox's Bridge and near Goldsborough, to prevent the enemy reoccupying Goldsborough in force. The scout (Pike) has arrived with your dispatch of 17th. Continue to extend the railroad as fast as possible, and I expect you to move toward Goldsborough even if it be unnecessary, as I don't want to lose men in a direct attack when it can be avoided. Don't depend altogether on your depot, but collect forage and provisions of the people. Tell Generals Easton and Beckwith to estimate for 100,000 men. I must give my men and animals some rest. We whipped Hardee easily about Averasborough. All retreated on Smithfield and Raleigh.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, March 19, 1865—5 p. m.

General SCHOFIELD:

Since making my dispatch of to-day, General Slocum reports the enemy in force between him and Cox's Bridge; thinks it is the main army of the enemy. I can hardly suppose the enemy will attempt to fight us this side the Neuse, but will direct all my columns on Cox's Bridge to-morrow. You must secure Goldsborough and fortify.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 7.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, Kinston, N. C.,
March 19, 1865.

* * * * * * *

II. The army will march for Goldsborough at 6 a. m. to-morrow, taking the river road on the north side of the river. General Cox will take the advance. The men will carry four days' rations and seventy rounds of ammunition. All wagons, except those absolutely necessary for baggage, and twenty-five teams for the pontoon train, will be loaded with subsistence stores and follow the troops. General Couch will cross his artillery and wagons on the pontoon bridge early in the morning (using the trestle bridge for the infantry), and as soon as the wagons are across, the pontoon bridge will be taken up and move with the rear of the column. The chief quartermaster will provide twenty-five teams to haul the pontoon train.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 18. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO, *New Berne, N. C., March 19, 1865.*

I. Lieut. Col. J. F. Boyd, chief quartermaster Twenty-third Army Corps, is hereby announced as acting chief quartermaster of the army in the field.

II. Maj. Frank E. Wolcott, judge-advocate, Army of the Ohio, is hereby announced as acting judge-advocate, Department of North Carolina, Army of the Ohio.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 32. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO, *New Berne, N. C., March 19, 1865.*

I. Brig. Gen. H. W. Birge will send to Morehead City by rail the Twenty-second Iowa Infantry and One hundred and thirty-first New York Infantry, to report for orders to Bvt. Brig. Gen. L. C. Easton, chief quartermaster, Military Division of the Mississippi. The quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

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By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 1. } HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS, *Kinston, N. C., March 19, 1865.*

I. The command will march for Goldsborough at 6 a. m. to-morrow, taking the river road on the north bank of the river. General Ruger's division will take the advance of the infantry column, followed by General Carter's division. General Greene's division will bring up the rear. The men will carry four days' rations and seventy rounds of ammunition. All wagons, except those absolutely necessary for baggage, will be loaded with subsistence stores and follow the troops. The cavalry under command of Colonel Savage will move in advance of the infantry column, covering the right flank and scouting well to the front, and will keep up through communications with the head of the infantry column, giving such information in regard to the country and enemy as may be gathered that would be of value to the commanding general at the head of the column.

II. The cavalry force on the south side of the river will cross at daybreak to-morrow morning. Captain Graham will report with his company to Brigadier-General Harland, commanding post of Kinston, for duty in this vicinity. The remainder will report to Colonel Savage, commanding Twelfth New York Cavalry.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Kinston, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. N. COUCH,
Comdg. Second and Third Divs., Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to ask you to select four or five good men from your cavalry, who know something of the country and send them down the Neuse road with instructions to get any tidings of the steamers expected up from New Berne with supplies.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Kinston, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. N. COUCH,
Comdg. Second and Third Divs., Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to say that Captain Graham's company of cavalry will remain here, and he desires all the cavalry on the other side of the river (your side) to cross over to this side early in the morning and report to Colonel Savage.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. SECOND AND THIRD DIVS., 23D ARMY CORPS,
March 19, 1865.

General MCLEAN:

GENERAL: The command will march in the a. m. in the following order, viz: First, the artillery and wagons of General Reilly's division over the pontoon bridge at 6 o'clock; second, the artillery and wagons of General McLean's division over the pontoon bridge; third, General Reilly's division at 8 o'clock over the trestle bridge; fourth, General McLean's division over the trestle bridge. The artillery and wagons after crossing will be parked in the first good ground on the right of the road and await orders from the proper officers.

By command of Major-General Couch:

C. A. CILLEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Faison's Depot, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to your orders, I left the bridge over the Northeast Branch of the Cape Fear River, with my command, on Thursday morning, the 16th instant, expecting to reach this place to-night, but our march was delayed by the extremely bad condition of the roads and the great difficulty I experienced in passing some of the creeks. The troops are now nine miles from here, on the Kenansville road. I came here in person for the purpose of reporting to you, but finding that you are not here I shall send this dispatch and wait till morning for an answer. Having learned

that the army, or a part of it, is at Mount Olive, I propose to march toward that place to-morrow, unless I should in the meantime receive contrary instructions. I have found on the railroad two engines in tolerable repair, and one which can be repaired; also four freight cars which can be used at once, and some ten or twelve others which could be made serviceable in five or six days, provided workmen could be provided. The machine-shop at Magnolia is in good condition. The superintendent of the road, Col. S. L. Fremont, informs me that as far as he is aware, the road remains uninjured between the Northeast Branch and the Neuse. I propose to send all the available cars down to Northeast, and to request General Hawley, who now commands at Wilmington, to send up stores (bread, coffee, sugar, and oats) by steamers to that point. My troops have rations for six days from to morrow morning. I have forage for four days.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Magnolia Station, N. C., March 19, 1865.

Col. S. L. FREMONT,
Chief Engineer and Supt. Wilmington and Weldon R. R. Co.:

COLONEL: The Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, with its rolling-stock, repair shops and appurtenances, has this day been taken possession by the Government of the United States for military purposes. No property of any kind or description will be removed from the road, its depots, &c., except that which is strictly the private property of its employés. The provisions, medicines, and other supplies belonging to the railroad company, will, until further orders, be used under your direction for the benefit of its employés.

By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAGNOLIA, N. C., *March 19, 1865—12.35 p. m.*

Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. AMES:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you march the column under your command beyond Kenansville and as near to Faison's Depot as possible to-night, making a march of about twenty miles to-day. The general will go from here to Faison's, and wishes you to send a staff officer on there with some cavalry to report the place of your halt for the night, &c. Artillery firing has been heard in a northwest direction from here last night and this morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. H. GRAVES,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 66.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 20, 1865.

The following operations of this command will take place to-morrow: Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, commanding Fifteenth Army Corps, will

extend his lines to the left somewhat, so as to get a good left flank, and by demonstrating against the enemy's lines annoy him as much as possible. Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair, commanding Seventeenth Army Corps, forming on the right of the Fifteenth Army Corps, will work against the left flank or rear of the enemy's lines at any point between his position and the river. Each corps commander will organize a train of wagons now empty from the ordnance and supply trains to proceed to Kinston and bring forward hard bread, sugar, coffee, boots, and shoes. The trains will move via Everettsville or Mount Olive. As the route is well protected by our forces a small guard will be sufficient.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Mill Creek, March 20, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general wishes you to have a vigilant watch kept on the enemy's lines, so that we may be advised the moment the enemy falls back from his lines, should he do so.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Blair.)

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Bentonville Cross-Roads, N. C., March 20, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that my command, being ready to move at 5 a. m., as directed in orders received from corps headquarters last night, moved out not long afterward, taking the first left-hand road as instructed. I had not continued long on this road before my head of column met with the outpost of the enemy. The skirmishing was at times considerable, continuing to increase as I approached my present position. Here the enemy has been developed in my front, well fortified, his line running very nearly parallel to the road on which we marched. My loss is about forty. I will forward a list of casualties as soon as received from brigade commanders, and I will forward a more full report of the part taken by my division at the earliest possible date.* My line, which connects on the right with General Corse, covers the road which leads to Smithfield, my left being refused so as to extend a considerable distance to the left of the road on which I have been marching to-day. My headquarters are at the cross-roads just in rear of my lines.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

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* See Part I, p. 246.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 20, 1865.

[General C. R. WOODS:]

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to request you to strengthen your position during the night, keeping a strong skirmish line well advanced. In the morning he desires you to push forward your skirmishers, more fully to develop the position of the enemy. You will please park your train to the left of the main road and at a sufficient distance from our lines to insure their safety in the event of an engagement.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Brigadier-General Corse.)

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
March 20, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I have brought the train forward and camped it on Buck Creek with the train of General Mower's division, Seventeenth Army Corps. Both trains are guarded by a brigade of General Mower's division. I have moved the troops of this brigade two miles farther to the front. I am only waiting for Colonel Carpenter's supply wagons to come up to move forward. I shall go five miles farther to-night.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. WOODS,
Brevet Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Bennettsville [*Bentonville*], *N. C., March 20, 1865.*

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that at 11 p. m. last night I received orders to march my division, via Blackman Lee's Store, to the place where the Left Wing was confronting the enemy, and report for service to Major-General Slocum. The command arrived at sunrise, having marched fourteen miles, or eighteen after sunset of the previous day, and was assigned a reserve position. At about 11 a. m. I received orders from General Slocum to push a strong line of skirmishers, well supported, to the right of his lines, to find the enemy and engage him. The line, composed of two regiments, was deployed, and moved in the direction indicated, and after about three hours maneuvering in swamps, the lines of the enemy were found, but retired at a very sharp angle from the direction he was looked for, when my lines were at once re-enforced by a brigade, were connected with the First Division, Fifteenth Corps, on the right, the left being much in advance of the Fourteenth Corps, and the enemy's pickets were at once assailed and driven to the main line, with a loss to us of 5 killed and 9 wounded. My pickets were here intrenched in close proximity to the lines of the enemy, and remained in this position till he withdrew.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 20, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the following as the operations of this command during the day: At 5 a. m. the Second Brigade, Col. C. R. Wever commanding, with one section of Battery B, First Michigan Artillery, made a demonstration upon the enemy near Cox's Bridge, under orders to drive them across the river and if possible compel them to destroy the bridge. The only road to the bridge runs between a swamp and the river for nearly a mile and was covered by the enemy's artillery. It was not until a path around the swamp could be found that the skirmishers succeeded in dislodging them. This was accomplished at 7.45 a. m. A force of cavalry and four pieces of artillery were developed. The rebels retreated across and from the river, taking off their guns and firing the bridge as they went. The remainder of the command broke camp at near Falling Creek Post-Office at 5 a. m., and moved forward to Cox's Cross-Roads, and at 8.15 the First Brigade and artillery moved out, following the Fourth Division on Bentonville road to near Mill Creek, at which point the enemy had made a stand, and formed in line of battle about 300 yards in rear of First and Fourth Divisions as a reserve. The Second Brigade was left at Cox's Cross-Roads as guard for the trains of the corps with instructions to skirmish with the enemy until further orders. At 6 p. m. it moved forward with the trains. At 6.30 p. m. the First Brigade moved forward on main road and formed in line of battle about 300 yards on the left and rear of First Division. The Second Brigade remained in line at the point vacated by the First Brigade. The artillery is parked on the east side of the main road and 200 yards in rear of First Brigade. Headquarters are on the road and right flank of the artillery. The casualties of the Second Brigade in the skirmish this morning were 2 severely and 1 slightly wounded.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 20, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the movements and operations of my command this instant: Pursuant to orders from corps headquarters I broke camp at 7 a. m., and following the First Division of this corps moved to the cross-roads near Neuse River; thence upon the Bentonville road to Mill Creek, near which my division is in position on the right of the First Division, General Woods', two brigades in line and one in reserve, and well intrenched, with skirmishers holding the high ground which constitutes the bank of the creek and swamp, and also intrenched confronting the enemy's skirmishers on the opposite bank. No serious demonstration has yet been made against my lines by the enemy and my position is, I think, a secure one. A list of casualties has not yet been received. My command has marched a distance of eight miles.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 48. } HDQRS. 4TH DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS, *On Goldsborough Road, Two Miles from Neuse River, March 20, 1865.*

I. The troops of this division will be in readiness to move on Bentonville at 5 a. m. the 20th instant, prepared for battle. No wagons to accompany them except those necessary in case of an engagement. All others will be closely parked at the cross-roads, near General Woods' camp, under a guard detailed from corps headquarters. Brigade commanders will see that the men bake up all the corn meal in their possession during the night, to be carried in haversacks. Brigades in the order of Third, First, Second. There are to-night strong indications of an engagement with the enemy during the day, and in order that the troops may be prepared for such an event, should it take place on this ground, as many men as there are tools will be actively engaged in the work of constructing fortifications under energetic officers. In case the division marches to the support of the Left Wing, or as above directed, the wagons to be taken will move in rear of battery, the center brigade by the side of same.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, on Goldsborough Road, March 20, 1865.

Brig. Gen. E. W. RICE,
Commanding First Brigade:

GENERAL: By direction of the brevet major-general commanding division I have the honor to communicate to you the following instructions in his name: The movements of this instant will doubtless be very important, with a prospect of meeting the enemy, who is said to be commanded by General Lee in person. By the accompanying order* you will see what disposition is to be made of trains, and it is very important that your command is brought forward to this point in time for the movement expressed in said order should such take place, bringing forward all trains, including General Sherman's, which, however, must not interfere with the movements of the troops. You can supply your command with meal and meat from any such you may find in the hands of the division foraging detail, this being your authority for so doing. The labor to be performed, though it may be severe, is rendered necessary by the exigencies of the service.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LOUIS H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 20, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIRST BRIGADE:

You will strengthen your position as much as possible during the night in anticipation of an attack in the morning. Where it can be done abatis will be extended well in front of the works, and when the

* See next, *ante*.

works are in open field lines of palisades can be constructed. Troops will at all times be in readiness to take to their arms. You will also, if practicable, intrench your skirmish line.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to commanding officers Second and Third Brigades.)

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 20, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: General Blair directs me to say that he wishes you to help forward the ordnance train of the Fourth Division if it gets into trouble, and at the same time push forward yourself, following the Fourth Division.

Respectfully,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, March 20, 1865—2 a. m.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: Yours of 8 p. m. 19th is just received, and I acknowledge receipt by direction of the general-in-chief, who instructs me also to say that the whole army is moving to your assistance as rapidly as possible. Upon its approach he wishes you to be prepared to assume the offensive against the enemy. Colonel Asmussen has directions for you. All ambulances will be given you that can.

I am, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Falling Creek Church, March 20, 1865—4 a. m.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: I got a dispatch from General Schofield yesterday saying he would start from Kinston for Goldsborough yesterday or to-day. I have just received information that General Terry camped his troops five miles south of Faison's yesterday, and that he in person reached Faison's on a train last night. I have ordered him to feel into Goldsborough for General Schofield and up to Cox's Bridge for me. We all move at 5 a. m. toward you; hold fast to your position, which I take for granted is now well fortified, but be ready to attack the enemy the moment you see signs of let go; follow him as far as Mill Creek, and take position covering the movement of your trains on the direct Goldsborough road. If it be true that General Terry has reached Faison's on a train, we will be able to send your wounded down to

Wilmington from Neuse River bridge. You shall have the use of every ambulance in the army not absolutely needed in the other corps and divisions.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 20, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN,
General-in-Chief:

GENERAL: I have already ordered the movement to be made on the left.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, March 20, 1865—8 p. m.

Major-General SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: I find the topography of the country different from what I expected. The road from Falling Creek Church will be very bad in wet weather as far as Cox's Bridge, thence for eight miles very good, with sandy ground and open fields; hence about ten miles from Cox's Bridge we are on flat pine land, such as makes bad roads in wet weather. We struck the enemy on his left rear about noon and have pressed him pretty hard, and have dislodged him from all his barricades except the line constructed as against you, which may be double or inclosed, for our men find parapets from the road well down to Mill Creek. Johnston hoped to overcome your wing before I could come to your relief. Having failed in that, I cannot see why he remains and still think he will avail himself of night to get back to Smithfield. I would rather avoid a general battle if possible, but if he insists on it, we must accommodate him. In that event if he be in position to-morrow, I want you to make a good road around his flank into this, and to-morrow night pass your trains and dispose your troops so that we have our back toward Faison's and Goldsborough. General Schofield was to leave Kinston for Goldsborough to-day, and General Terry has arrived with 9,000 infantry at Faison's, and I have ordered him to Cox's Bridge to be drawn up here if we need him. I can also draw on General Schofield in a few days for 10,000, but I think we have enough. First, in case of being forced to fight the enemy here we must send our trains to Kinston for supplies, and therefore get a road at once around the flank of the enemy; the rest is in our possession. Retain ordnance and all wagons with food; all else should go down. Make no orders as yet, till to-morrow reveals the purpose of our enemy, but think the problem over. Post General Hazen to your right so as to join his own corps, the Fifteenth. Keep General Kilpatrick on your left rear; feel the enemy at several points to-night, and, if he retreats, try and get some prisoners. Make me a report of to-day's operations with you, and describe more fully the topography.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
March 20, 1865—12 midnight.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: Your communication of 8 p. m. has come to hand. I have already found a road around the flank of the enemy, and sent my wagons on it. My hospitals are also established on it. I had the Michigan Engineers at work on a bridge on that road, with instructions to put the road in good order. I can, at any time, move this wing to the Goldsborough road without a fight. I placed Hazen in position on my right, so that he could join his corps. The enemy has a good road leading from his position to Smithfield, with intrenchments covering it. If you find it necessary to fight him, I shall try to carry that part of his line, as it will cut off his retreat. I will send you a plat of the country to-morrow. I have given Major Audenried the details of yesterday's affair. Johnston was too slow; he allowed me to discover his strength before he made any strong efforts, and then found my men behind a very strong line of works. I have an excellent line, and the men were very industrious yesterday afternoon and last night. I do not believe my losses will exceed 1,500 killed, wounded, and missing. The enemy left many dead in front of my line. I will give you details as soon as possible.

Yours, truly,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 20, 1865—7.50 a. m.

Major-General DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move forward your skirmish line along the whole line and support it, but without bringing on a general engagement.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Williams.)

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 20, 1865.

Brevet Major-General DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you send to your train for a couple of days' rations for your troops, and order the balance of the train direct to Goldsborough.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, March 20, 1865.

Brig. Gen. J. D. MORGAN,
Commanding Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you push forward your entire skirmish line, and supporting it, drive in the enemy's skirmishers, still holding your original lines.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. McCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

General Carlin has same instructions.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, March 20, 1865.

Brig. Gen. J. D. MORGAN,
Commanding Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you throw up such works as will secure your present position, connecting them on the right with the troops which join you on that flank, and on the left with our old line, and remain for the night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. McCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 20, 1865—3 a. m.

Brevet Major-General WILLIAMS,
Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the commanding general to say that he has just received a communication from Major-General Sherman, and that the entire army is moving to our assistance. He wishes the troops informed of this fact, and he directs that the cartridge-boxes be filled, all stragglers and foragers collected together, and everything done to make the command as effective as possible to-morrow morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 20, 1865.

Brevet Major-General WILLIAMS,
Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move forward and ascertain the position of the enemy's lines on the left before dark.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Mill Creek, March 20, 1865.

Brigadier-General WARD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you move forward your skirmish line immediately, supporting it, but without bringing on a general engagement.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 20, 1865.

General W. T. WARD:

GENERAL: The brevet major-general commanding the corps directs that you have your command in readiness to move at daybreak to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, March 20, 1865—2 p. m.

General SCHOFIELD:

Your dispatch of yesterday is received. You can march into Goldsborough without opposition. General Terry is at Faison's and I have ordered him to Cox's Bridge till the present action is over. I am now within two miles of Slocum but Johnston is between us; we are now skirmishing. After occupying Goldsborough, if you hear nothing to the contrary, join a part of your forces with General Terry's and come to me wherever I may be.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

ROCKFORD, N. C., *March 20, 1865—5 p. m.*

Major-General SHERMAN:

My troops will be at this place to-night, which is on the north bank of the Neuse, about midway between Kinston and Goldsborough. Unless I hear from you or get information indicating it to be unwise to do so, I will march for Goldsborough to-morrow. A troop of cavalry passed down the south bank this p. m., and I presume with dispatches from you or General Terry. If so, I will get them to-night.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

NEW BERNE, *March 20, 1865.*

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Headquarters:

General Easton has called for troops and I have sent him the Twenty-second Iowa and One hundred and thirty-first New York Regiments that I wrote you would go to the front. There is only one regiment left here of the Nineteenth Corps.

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brigadier-General.

KINSTON, N. C., *March 20, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. J. W. BARRIGER,
Chief Commissary of Subsistence of Department, New Berne:

The army is moving this morning with five days' rations. Second fleet of boats has arrived. As railroad is to be finished to river to-night I suppose all stores will be sent to that point. I remain here a few days, by direction of the general, to look to accumulation of supplies. Please crowd forward by rail.

R. B. TREAT,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Commissary of Subsistence.

SPECIAL ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, March 20, 1865.

The command will continue the movement toward Goldsborough to-morrow morning at 6 o'clock, unless otherwise ordered before that hour. General Carter will move in advance, followed by General Greene's division and General Ruger's division in rear. All wagons will move in one train at the rear of the corps under a strong guard furnished from General Ruger's division.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL CORPS, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, March 20, 1865.

Colonel SAVAGE,
Commanding Twelfth New York Cavalry:

The command will continue the movement toward Goldsborough to-morrow morning at 6 o'clock, unless otherwise ordered before that hour. You will conduct the movement of your command with similar views in mind as of to-day.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ON THE MARCH, *March 20, 1865.*

Colonel SAVAGE,
Commanding Cavalry:

It is desired that the cavalry should cover the roads so that the movement of an infantry column may not be known ahead of us, and

you will keep all persons coming into the lines, and allow none to go out on the flanks or ahead. Report when you arrive at Falling Creek.

J. D. COX,
Major-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL CORPS, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, March 20, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER OF BATTALION CAVALRY,
White Hall:

SIR: You will continue the movement toward Goldsborough, covering the head of the infantry column, to-morrow morning at 6 o'clock, unless otherwise ordered before that hour.

By command of Major-General Cox:

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Falling Creek Church, March 20, 1865—4 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have just learned through your cavalry of your arrival at Faison's. Johnston with his concentrated force made an unsuccessful attack on my Left Wing yesterday, near Bentonville. I am just starting with my Right Wing to attack him. Feel into Goldsborough for General Schofield, and up to the Falling Creek and Cox's Bridge for me. We have cavalry pickets south of Goldsborough. The Neuse bridges are burned.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Falling Creek Church, March 20, 1865—6 a. m.

Major-General TERRY,
Faison's Depot:

GENERAL: I have this moment received your dispatch of yesterday. I had just sent off a cipher dispatch to you, but as yours is plain I infer you have no cipher clerk. Yesterday Johnston with his force concentrated struck my Left Wing near Bentonville, and they had a severe battle, lasting until night. General Slocum beat them off, but was uneasy. I am now turning the Right Wing on Bentonville. I want you to move to Mount Olive Station and communicate with General Schofield, who ought to be at Goldsborough to-night, and then feel up for me on the south of the Neuse, toward Bentonville. Get the railroad from Northeast Branch to Neuse in running order, to the capacity of the captured stock. The railroad and road bridges near Goldsborough were burned yesterday on being threatened by some of our cavalry parties. If General Schofield gets to Goldsborough the road bridge should be rebuilt at once. If you need pontoons I can send you some of canvas. Half our trains are with General Slocum, near Bentonville, and the other half about eight miles south of this, on

the road from Cox's Bridge to Wilmington. By to-night I will know if Joe Johnston intends to fight me in force, when I will communicate further. Until you know the result, you and General Schofield should work up to my support, south of the Neuse.

Yours, &c.,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

P. S.—Send that cavalry regiment through to me via the Bentonville road. We hold the bridge over Falling Creek.

W. T. S.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 20, 1865—9 p. m.

Major-General TERRY,
Mount Olive:

GENERAL: We struck Johnston on his left rear to-day, and have been skirmishing pretty hard all day. We have opened communication with General Slocum, who had a hard fight yesterday. We are now ready for battle if Johnston desires it to-morrow, but as he has failed to overcome one wing he will hardly invite battle with both. I don't want to fight now or here, and therefore won't object to his drawing off to-night toward Smithfield, as he should. General Schofield moves to-day from Kinston for Goldsborough, and I wish you to go to Cox's, to which point I will send a pontoon train if I conclude to lay a bridge there. The north side of Neuse will afford us good foraging ground, and will be a direct threat to Smithfield and the rear of Johnston's army now to my front. I may have to send all my empty wagons to Kinston for clothing and supplies, but you would do well to have the railroad from Wilmington repaired up to the Neuse and you can draw supplies up that road. If Johnston insists on fighting us here I may call you up, but if he goes I will drop down to Goldsborough, put you about Faison's or Mount Olive and General Schofield at Kinston until we are resupplied and equipped for the next campaign. This will take us a couple of weeks. I suppose you will be put to your wits to feed your men until the roads are equipped, but it is wonderful how necessity develops the searching qualities of soldiers. My men seem to keep fat and healthy on parched corn and bacon. Have both bridges over Falling Water put in good order and tell General Schofield to repair at once the road bridge across the Neuse at Goldsborough. The railroad bridge will be built by Colonel Wright with his railroad gang. I do hope we will have some fine weather, as rain makes these roads terrible.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL ARMY CORPS,
Faison's Depot, March 20, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I forward inclosed cipher dispatches received at Wilmington just before I left there. There was no cipher operator there,

so that I could not ascertain their contents. I send them forward, although from a verbal message given to me by the operator I suppose them to have been intended for me.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALF. H. TERRY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Mount Olive, N. C., March 20, 1865.

Col. M. KERWIN,
Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry:

COLONEL: You will immediately proceed by the Bentonville road and Falling Creek bridge to report with your command to Major-General Sherman, whom you will find at or beyond the bridge mentioned above.

By order of Major-General Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCHING ORDERS.] HDQRS. PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Near Falling Creek, N. C., March 20, 1865.

The corps will march at 6 a. m. to-morrow, General Paine, with two brigades of his division, leading. One brigade of Paine's division will be left with the train, which will be moved forward in the morning to a point about three miles in advance of the present bivouac, where the trains of the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps are now parked. The only wagons to accompany the troops will be the headquarters wagons, those of the batteries, and ten wagons of the ordnance train, not including regimental headquarters wagons. The pontoon train will be parked with the train.

By order of Major-General Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WILMINGTON,
Wilmington, N. C., March 20, 1865.

Lieut. Col. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of North Carolina:

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith a field return of the forces under my command (A) on the 19th instant. It does not include the One hundred and sixty-ninth New York, of Brevet Major-General Ames' division, on Levison Creek, right bank of the Cape Fear, about fifteen miles distant, guarding a pontoon bridge and protecting an expected column of refugees. Probably there are also a few scattered individuals or squads left irregularly with baggage, &c., though General Abbott, commanding post, has hunted up nearly all such. I suppose that as fast as any considerable number of the invalids become fit for duty I am to forward them. I forward also a hospital morning report of the 19th, showing 3,689 sick. About 100 have since come in by way of Northeast River from Major-General Terry's column. About

2,000 of the sick are paroled prisoners. The medical officers claim to have asked for all they need, but they hear nothing of its coming. The deaths average about seventeen per day. The great wants are medical supplies and transportation. I can and do seize stimulants sufficient, but the great want of my whole command is transportation The quartermasters tell us we have but fourteen wagons of all sorts. The hospitals could well use about all of these, but I have also many refugees to care for and the ordinary work of the post to do besides. The surgeons are exceedingly anxious to hear of hospital ships coming, as about 1,000 of their patients could then be sent North immediately. To our great joy the sanitary steamer Governor Chase arrived last evening, in charge of Doctors Dalton and Agnew, with underclothing enough to supply all the needy sick men, and a large stock of anti-scorbutics, articles of hospital diet, &c. A great amount of suffering is relieved thereby. I send also the morning report for the 19th of Lieutenant-Colonel Randlett, provost-marshal at this post, which sufficiently explains itself. Nearly 1,200 have taken the oath of allegiance since I took command. The people generally make but little trouble, in the city at least. Stray marauders annoy the inhabitants in all the region about us, but more particularly in Bladen and Brunswick Counties. In those districts are many rebel deserters, in some instances organized as companies. They subsist on the inhabitants, chiefly directing their attentions to citizens of strong rebel proclivities, and especially against enrolling officers, &c. Many of these are near their own homes. I believe the regular army could recruit from such men and from rebel deserters without our lines who have taken the oath, many men for cavalry service in the Northwest against the Indians. In requiring the oath, protecting the people, and suppressing rebellious manifestations, I govern myself as strictly as possible by the President's Amnesty Proclamation, General Orders, Nos. 64 and 190, series of 1864, Lieutenant-General Grant's order concerning deserters, and the department commander's Order, No. 8, to the best of my ability, with the most earnest desire to make the people love and honor, but at all hazards, obey the Government. Of course there will be mistakes in individual instances, but I feel entirely assured that the major-general commanding will hear me also if complaints are made. Four hundred or 500 refugees have reached us from Fayetteville, but the great column does not appear. I have landed stores on Point Peter to be ready for them, sent a capable officer familiar with the country with a good party of men up from Point Peter toward Moore's Creek to meet, guide, and help them, and also have sent a small steamer up the Cape Fear this morning with a detachment and a guard and a supply of food to look along the bank for signs of them. The gun-boat Eolus came down last night from Fayetteville, the last of Major-General Sherman's army having left there. She reports nothing new. I cannot find the officer, but I am told that he believes that some of our forces are putting a pontoon across just below Elizabethtown. If so, it must be to cross the refugees. Certainly I must hear from them within twenty-four hours. Enough contrabands and poor whites are here to give us much work. Besides sending some contrabands to Morehead City, at the request of General Beckwith I have organized a battalion, now numbering 530, to work about the streets, wharves, hospitals, and defenses. I give them full rations and their families the refugee ration. When any of them can show that they have secured employment elsewhere they can go. We shall soon have the city thoroughly clean. Brevet Brigadier-General Hayes I charged with collecting, inventory-

ing, and saving captured and abandoned personal property. He is doing good service. It requires great vigilance to keep from being cheated and robbed by lying rebels or thieving Northern speculators. Some cotton and tobacco, about which there was no question, has already been duly invoiced to the Treasury agent and sent to New York. Two or three parties have appeared here with cotton or rosin permits. They have not shown their papers, and I warn all persons not to make sales or transfers of such property without permission from district headquarters, under penalty of being imprisoned or summarily ejected, before I can get at the new legislation of Congress on these subjects or receive orders from Major-General Schofield. One Mr. Gibbons, contractor for the hides of Government beeves slaughtered, disclosed to me a desire that I should share in cotton and rosin speculations, he furnishing capital and I official assistance. He declared at New Berne General Palmer had made $10,000 in one trade. Satisfied that he came here to defraud the Government, I put him in the watch-house, where he remains. Mr. Heaton, special supervising Treasury agent, has reported here with his local agents to care for property and trade—to all appearances a gentleman of integrity and certainly one of experience. He certainly relieves us of much embarrassment. I hope that the project of sending the surplus negroes to General Saxton's district will be carried out. It is rapidly getting late for the planting season, and our want of seeds, implements, and mules and carts makes it very difficult to locate them upon abandoned lands near here. The inclosed newspaper contains, among other orders, one providing for a fund to meet the semi-civil expenditures that I can hereby avoid. The rates are lower than are imposed in neighboring districts and will be reduced if they are likely to raise more than an economical administration will need. The long-expected construction corps does not arrive, save that about 200 men have come, under a Mr. Hawkesworth, who are busily engaged at the railroad machine-shops and putting the station in order. I have received favorably the renewed advances of certain parties who profess a desire to bring in some rolling-stock of the Manchester road and put the track in order, at least as far as the Little Pedee. The talk results in nothing thus far. I shall be very grateful for any instructions, advice, or suggestions the major-general commanding may have leisure to send. Venturing to congratulate him upon his continued success, I remain,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. R. HAWLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 20, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to request that Lieut. Col. H. C. Ransom, of the quartermaster's department, now on duty transferring the cotton captured at Savannah to the Treasury agents, be assigned to the same duties in the city of Charleston. The amount of cotton captured at Charleston will probably reach as high as 6,000 bales.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. NORTHERN DISTRICT, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH,
Charleston, S. C., March 20, 1865.

Capt. E. MARTHELL,
Commissary of Subsistence:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the aggregate strength of the forces present is 274 commissioned officers and 6,844 enlisted men.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
LEONARD B. PERRY,
First Lieut., Fifty-fifth Mass. Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS CITY OF CHARLESTON,
Charleston, S. C., March 20, 1865.

Rear-Admiral JOHN A. DAHLGREN,
Commanding Atlantic Blockading Squadron:

ADMIRAL: Col. Stewart L. Woodford begs that about 200 colored seamen in uniform, with their officers, be sent to this city to-morrow by 1.30 p. m. to report to Lieut. Col. A. G. Bennett, at the Citadel, for the purpose of joining the procession of the freedmen of this city. The line will be formed at the Citadel green at 2 p. m.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. A. BATTERSON,
Second Lieut., 127th New York Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS CITY OF CHARLESTON,
Charleston, S. C., March 20, 1865.

Lieut. Col. A. G. BENNETT,
Commanding Northern District:

COLONEL: By direction of the colonel commanding the city, you will have your regiment formed in line at 2 p. m. to-morrow to join in the procession of freedmen. Your regiment will have the right, and application has been made for 200 colored sailors to have the left of the line. They will report to you at the green at about 1.30. You will reduce the guards in your district just as much as possible to-morrow, in order that you may turn out as many men as can possibly be spared.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. A. BATTERSON,
Second Lieut., 127th New York Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 21, 1865—9 a. m.*
(Received 3 p. m.)

Major-General MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General, Washington:

Has rolling-stock sufficient to supply an army of 100,000 men, with the usual proportion of cavalry, transportation, and artillery, over a distance of 130 miles, been sent to New Berne? If not, more should be sent at once.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *March 21, 1865—5 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

Dispatch of 9 a. m. received. Rolling-stock is being sent to New Berne. General McCallum, who received his instructions directly from General Sherman at Savannah, is attending to this. It is not going forward as fast as I could wish. Its embarkation is confined to certain docks at New York and Wilmington, Del., where alone the facilities are to be found, and where the wide gauge engines and cars are collected. General McCallum was here last week, and has gone back to New York to urge it forward. It requires many vessels, and the ice interfered with the earlier shipments. Whatever is possible is being done to get forward a sufficient supply of rolling-stock. Your dispatch will be sent to him.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General and Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 33.

HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

I. Major-General Howard, commanding Right Wing, will retain only such wagons as are essential to immediate operations and dispatch the balance, under small escort, to Kinston for a supply of provisions. He will establish a temporary depot for his command south of the Neuse River and east of the Wilmington and Goldsborough Railroad, in which to deposit his camp equipage, whilst his wagons are engaged in bringing up stores.

II. Major-General Slocum, commanding Left Wing, will in like manner establish a temporary depot at a point south of the Neuse River and west of the Wilmington and Goldsborough Railroad, in which to deposit his camp equipage, whilst his wagons are engaged in bringing him supplies from Kinston. He will send his wounded to a temporary hospital camp on the Wilmington and Goldsborough Railroad convenient to Goldsborough. The wagons needed for immediate operations will be shifted around the left flank of the Right Wing to a point between Cox's Bridge and the rear of the Right Wing.

III. General Kilpatrick, commanding cavalry, will in like manner establish a temporary depot on the Wilmington and Goldsborough Railroad, near Mount Olive Station, to which point he will send all incumbrances that will impede his march.

IV. General Slocum will send his bridge train to Cox's Bridge to report to Major-General Terry, who will effect a crossing of Neuse River at that point and cover it on the north side by at least one brigade intrenched. General Howard will send his bridge train to some good crossing between his temporary depot and Goldsborough.

V. Major-General Schofield, commanding Army of the Ohio, will occupy Goldsborough and make disposition to cross over Little River in the direction of Smithfield.

VI. Col. W. W. Wright will use extraordinary exertions to complete the railroad into Goldsborough, and provide rolling-stock for moving a maximum quantity of supplies.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Mill Creek, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Capt. F. W. GILBRETH, *Aide-de-Camp:*

CAPTAIN: Please allow General Blair's brigade to move on up at once. At his request I have changed my order regarding it. Use the engineer regiment and such detachments as you can find. The Fifteenth Army Corps will send a regiment, which will leave here to-morrow morning and will reach you before the train can be entirely drawn out.

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 67.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 21, 1865.

In accordance with Special Field Orders, No 33, headquarters Military Division of the Mississippi, a temporary depot for this command will be established near Neuse River at the first practicable approach east of Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. All wagons not necessary for immediate use now filled with surplus camp and garrison equipage, or other surplus stores, will be sent to this depot and unloaded, and will then proceed to Kinston for supplies. One regiment will be sent from each corps to the depot as a guard, and the senior officer will have command of the depot. As soon as General Schofield's forces have occupied Goldsborough, Capt. C. B. Reese, chief engineer, will lay the pontoons over the river, and with a view to that purpose will have the line of the river reconnoitered to-day. As soon as the wagons of the Left Wing have passed to our right rear, it will be necessary for the Right Wing to take roads south of the one by Cox's Bridge. The roads leading from the center of the Fifteenth Army Corps, where the guide board reads, "Twenty miles to Goldsborough," will be put in repair by the pioneers of that corps. Captain Reese will have all the routes from this point to the depot reconnoitered to-day, and will advise corps commanders.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Mill Creek, March 21, 1865.

Major GILLETTE,
Provost-Marshal, Fifteenth Army Corps:

Have you any information this evening, received from prisoners or deserters, different from what has been previously received? If so, send it in brief.

Yours, &c.,

JAMES WILSON,
Colonel and Provost-Marshal-General, Army of the Tennessee.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Provost-Marshal's Office, March 21, 1865.

No information has been received to-day of importance. Several prisoners have been captured, but they seem to know little relative to

the movements of the enemy. Those captured were in front of the First Division, and belong to Hoke's command. They state that last night troops were moving to their left, and that their command was ordered to move, but they knew not where. The order, however, was countermanded during the night. They state that nearly the whole of the army was on this side of the river this morning. Their opinion is that the enemy intends crossing the river.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK C. GILLETTE,
Major and Provost-Marshal, Fifteenth Army Corps.

OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, March 21, 1865.

[General J. A. LOGAN:]

GENERAL: Your trains are in park on the left-hand side of the road, where General Woods left them last night. I reported them to the officer in command of the brigade of the Seventeenth Army Corps this morning, or rather, to one of his staff officers at his headquarters. This brigade is now gone, and so has the commanding officer, and the Seventeenth Corps trains are moving. Nothing has been said to me about moving our trains, and I am informed that Colonel Montgomery says he has received no orders to guard our trains. In this state of the case I will take the responsibility of moving up our trains as soon as I can get the road to some point near the troops. General Terry is now passing with a column about two miles to our right. I understand there are two division trains of the Seventeenth Corps about four or five miles in our rear, but I don't know where they are. There are no troops left with us, except the few train guards. I do not apprehend the least danger here, but shall follow up unless I get other orders.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

G. L. FORT,
Lieut. Col. and Chief Quartermaster, Fifteenth Army Corps.

P. S.—We are now about five miles in the rear of where your headquarters were night before last.

FORT.

OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, March 21, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL:

MAJOR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note and orders. The last division train all came into camp last night at 8 p. m., and to-day we lay in camp with the trains all in park, and are collecting forage, repairing wagons, harness, &c. The roads yesterday were as bad as I ever saw, but the mules are getting rest to-day and will be fresh. I will have every wagon emptied that can be and sent for supplies as soon as a guard or the orders come to move. I suppose it will require but a small train guard. There are a number of empty wagons with the troops sent forward with supplies, and some others were loaned to regiments for foraging purposes. These, I think, should be sent back at once, so that they may be loaded with supplies at Kinston, if there are sufficient for us. I will send a quartermaster specially

to secure all the clothing and stores he can for our corps. Colonel Carpenter went to the front this morning with supplies, and he can bring back all the empty wagons.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. L. FORT,

Lieut. Col. and Chief Quartermaster, Fifteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Mill Creek, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general understood that there were two regiments besides General Woods' brigade with the train, and the order was to bring forward General Woods' brigade only. General Blair had withdrawn the brigade, understanding that but one regiment would remain at the temporary depot, and that the rest be brought forward at once, so that there was but one organized regiment there at best. It was understood also from Major Woodhull that there were two regiments with the train. The general wishes that the regiment intended as a guard for the temporary depot be sent as early as possible in the a. m., and that your prisoners be sent with it if they can be got ready. Captain Gilbreth was sent back this a. m., with orders to take all trains to Everettsville, using the engineer regiment and all detachments as a guard.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 21, 1865.

[General WOODS:]

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to request you to strengthen your position and intrench your skirmish line during the night, and in the morning feel forward with your skirmishers to ascertain whether any change has been made in the rebel line. Please report any change you may at any time discover, and the result of the advance of your skirmish line ordered for the morning.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Generals Hazen and Corse.)

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that upon advancing my line of skirmishers this morning the enemy were still occupying their skirmish pits, and that my pickets report that the enemy were working during the night building works.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Mill Creek, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that my skirmish line was advanced this morning as directed. The enemy has stubbornly resisted my skirmishers all day, giving up their ground only when well pressed by a very heavy skirmish line. My main line I moved forward during the morning a distance of 250 yards, establishing a new line on a ridge of ground affording me a far better position. My skirmishers in advancing drove the rebels from an intrenched line so that they are thrown back on their main works. I have directed each brigade to put one regiment out on the line to-night, with instructions to intrench both advance and reserve lines well before morning. I hold now all the ground that I have taken during the day. Brevet Brigadier-General Woods' First Brigade having reported, gives me my entire division; each brigade is on the line with about one-half its regiments in the advance works. I will forward a list of casualties as soon as they can be obtained from the brigades.

I have the honor to be, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Bennettsville [Bentonville], N. C., March 21, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that this division was brought from the left of the army and reported to its proper corps commander at about 11 a. m. to-day, and two brigades put in line about 250 yards in front of the enemy, connecting with the First Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, on the right, and endeavoring to do so with that of General Morgan, Fourteenth Corps, on the left, but that corps being some 500 yards more distant from the enemy than the Fifteenth, it was found impracticable to connect with it, and my reserve brigade was massed just to the right and in rear of the interval between them. The troops were to-day intrenched, and the skirmish line constantly engaged. There were to-day 3 killed and 20 wounded.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the following as the operations of this command during the day: For the purpose of obtaining suitable ground the First Brigade was moved to a position on the lower Goldsborough road, and is now encamped upon both sides of the road, about 500 yards from the Bentonville road, in column by regiments, fronting east, the remainder of the division occupying the same position as was stated in last report. These headquarters are on the east side of and

about 100 yards from the Bentonville road, immediately in front of the left of the Second Brigade. The division has been held in reserve during the day, and under orders to be in readiness to move at a moment's notice.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I have made some changes in the position of my troops during the day, although there are two brigades confronting the enemy as before, but more advanced with the right of the line (one brigade) thrown forward at an angle of 35 degrees upon the left brigade. At 3 p. m., with a re-enforced skirmish line, I assaulted the enemy's skirmishers and drove them from their rifle-pits, but failed to hold them in consequence of the left being exposed to a flank fire from the left, the brigade holding General Woods' right not supporting the movement, and the enemy's pits on the right of my line being in such close proximity to the main works as to expose the men to a murderous fire therefrom. I have four pieces of artillery in position in my advanced works, and used them to very good advantage during the afternoon and evening. The casualties during the day, I think, will not exceed forty men.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
March 21, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR, *Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:*

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to inform you that there is a bridge over Mill Creek, about four miles below here, which is not guarded. He wishes you to send a picket to the point immediately. The bearer of this will guide the picket to the bridge. He also wishes, if they are not already out of sight, that your trains be parked sufficiently far to the rear to be unseen by the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Bentonville, March 21, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER GUARD AT CORPS TRAIN:

SIR: The train under charge of Colonel Joel, chief quartermaster, has been ordered to move to a depot east of the railroad. You will move your command with it, and furnish a regiment to Colonel Joel as guard to a train to be sent to Kinston.

By order of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Lieut. Col. J. H. W. MILLS,
Chief Commissary of Subsistence, Seventeenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: Colonel Joel has been directed to move his train to a temporary depot to be established east of the railroad and from there to send all empty wagons to Kinston for sugar, coffee, hard bread, and shoes. You will go with it and procure the commissary supplies. The general wishes you to have all supplies compactly loaded and sent to the command here at once. The wagons so sent will be unloaded here and sent to Kinston.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Lieut. Col. E. M. JOEL,
Chief Quartermaster Seventeenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that you move the trains of the Third and Fourth Divisions to Mount Olive Depot, and there await directions from Captain Steele, who has gone to find the location of a temporary depot to be established by Captain Reese, chief engineer, on the Neuse River east of the railroad. As soon as practicable after establishing your train at this depot you will take all the empty wagons to Kinston and bring back sugar, coffee, hard bread, and shoes. For this purpose wagons loaded with foraged supplies and surplus camp and garrison equipage will be unloaded at the depot. Captain Steele will be at Mount Olive this p. m. I have ordered General Mower's train to move to Everettsville and the quartermaster to communicate with you at Mount Olive.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING,
[*March 21*], *1865—2 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN, *General-in-Chief:*

GENERAL: I am informed by Colonel Poe that you design swinging this wing to the left and rear of the Right. It can be done, I think, without difficulty. I shall, of course, keep my present lines, withdrawing gradually from my extreme left. I shall not commence the movement without further orders from you, but shall be prepared to commence it to-morrow morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. SLOCUM, *Commanding Left Wing:*

GENERAL: General Sherman directs me to say Colonel Poe has returned from your headquarters and that you may commence the

movement, viz, from your left to the left rear of the Right Wing to-morrow morning. General Terry has arrived at Cox's Bridge and awaits the arrival of your bridge train.

I am, general, with respect, &c.,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—The best mode of drawing from your left to the right is to let the cavalry relieve by a thin skirmish line the skirmishers of the left corps till it has gained its new position, when it, too, can withdraw. So instruct General Kilpatrick.

SHERMAN.

MARCH 21, 1865—3.15 p. m.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: A deserter from Cheatham's command has just come into our lines. He says Hoke, Cheatham, Lee, Stewart, and Hardee are there, Hoke on their left and Hardee on their right. He says two divisions from Lee's army have just arrived. Came last evening and this morning. He states that they have a strong line of works about half a mile the other side of the creek. He is intelligent and I am disposed to believe him.

Yours, truly,

H. W. SLOCUM,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
No. 28. } *In the Field, N. C., March 21, 1865.*

I. Corps commanders will at once remove all sick and wounded to a camp near the point at which the road from Cox's Bridge to Everettsville crosses the road from Goldsborough to Dead Fields. A temporary hospital will be established at that point. Every spare wagon will be at once sent to Kinston for the purpose of bringing up supplies of subsistence and forage.

II. Each corps commander will establish a temporary depot near the temporary hospital above-mentioned, where baggage will be left while the wagons are hauling supplies. All prisoners will be at once sent to that point under a suitable guard.

III. Lieutenant-Colonel Moore, commanding pontoniers, will remove the pontoon bridge train to Cox's Bridge and report to Major-General Terry.

* * * * * * *

V. First Lieut. William Ludlow is relieved from duty as chief engineer on the staff of the major-general commanding and will report to Col. O. M. Poe, chief engineer, Military Division of the Mississippi.

By command of Maj. Gen. H. W. Slocum:

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 21, 1865.

General DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you hold your corps ready to take the offensive. He has just been informed by the general-in-chief that a general engagement this afternoon is not improbable.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Major-General DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that the Twentieth Corps will be moved to the rear of the Right Wing to-morrow. Your corps will probably follow the next day. He wishes you to conform to the position, as your corps will be on the left and rear of the army.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Major-General DAVIS,
Commanding Fourteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that you need not make any change in the position of your troops at present.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Division commanders will hold their commands in readiness to take the offensive. The general-in-chief deems a general engagement this afternoon not improbable.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. Jef. C. Davis:
A. C. McCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—General Davis does not think this need interfere with General Morgan's execution of his last orders.

Respectfully,
A. C. McCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, &c.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, March 21, 1865—8.40 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel MCCLURG,
Asst. Adjt. Gen. and Chief of Staff, Fourteenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have nothing of importance to communicate this morning. The enemy still behind their works in our front. A division of the Fifteenth Corps has taken up position on the right of the First Brigade. At 9 p. m. last evening General Mitchell informed me that a brigade of General Baird's moved from his left, withdrawing their skirmish line. The Third Brigade of my division (held in reserve) was at once ordered to the position thus vacated, which they now hold.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES D. MORGAN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Brig. Gen. J. D. MORGAN,
Commanding Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: General Davis has just returned from riding the lines. He directs me to say to you that he considers Colonel Langley's brigade entirely exposed to the attack of the enemy at any time they may choose to make it. He directs you to withdraw your left and connect it with General Carlin's line (uncovering the latter), strengthen your right, and mass the remainder of your unoccupied troops in your rear on the best ground you can find. General Slocum is not going to move out the Twentieth Corps.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. MCCLURG,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
In the Field, N. C., March 21, 1865.

General WILLIAMS,
Commanding Twentieth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you hold your corps ready to take the offensive. He has just been informed by the general-in-chief that a general engagement this afternoon is not improbable. General Sherman has attacked the enemy on the right, and General Slocum wishes you to send a brigade of infantry with a section of artillery in the direction of Mill Creek bridge, to reconnoiter and to press the enemy closely. General Kilpatrick will co-operate with you. Let the brigade move as soon as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

He says you may take two brigades if you prefer it.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

All of the wagons and pack trains and vehicles of every kind, except the artillery now with this corps, will move at 5.30 a. m. to-morrow

toward Cox's Bridge. The One hundred and second New York Volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel Chatfield commanding, is hereby detailed as escort for these trains. Each division commander will have all of his wagons and pack animals report to Colonel Chatfield at 5 a. m. at the cross-roads near these headquarters. In marching these trains Colonel Chatfield will have the pack trains precede the wagons, and he will have the ammunition wagons follow the headquarters wagons. The infantry will be in readiness at 5.30 a. m. to move at a moment's notice.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

The medical director of this corps will at once establish a temporary hospital near the intersection of the Cox's Bridge and Everettsville road with the road from Goldsborough to Dead Fields, and have all the sick and wounded of the command moved there. Captain Whittelsey will establish a temporary depot near the temporary hospital above mentioned. He will have the wagons unloaded at that point and send every available wagon to Kinston for supplies of subsistence stores and forage. Division commanders will send at once all regimental wagons and empty supply wagons to report to Captain Whittelsey for this duty. The baggage will be unloaded at the temporary depot. Colonel Mindil will send with the train as guard to and from Kinston two regiments. The balance of his command will remain as a guard for the temporary depot. Colonel Mindil will assume the command of the whole camp. General Geary will detail one regiment to escort the hospital and other trains from this point until they join the train now under charge of Colonel Mindil, when it will return and report to its proper command. The commanding officer of this regiment will report at these headquarters at once for instructions. Lieutenant Stevens, ambulance officer of the Second Division, will take charge of the hospital trains until they reach the hospital. Lieut. H. C. Smith, One hundred and fiftieth New York Volunteers, acting assistant quartermaster, will take charge of the wagon train and report with it to Captain Whittelsey. Major Parks, provost-marshal, will send with the train to the temporary depot all of the prisoners he has in charge. On their arrival at the camp Colonel Mindil will take charge of them and send them under guard with the train to Kinston and turn them over to the commanding officer at that point. Lieutenant-Colonel Moore will move at once with his pontoon train to Cox's Bridge and report to Major-General Terry.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, March 21, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Military Division of the Mississippi:

MAJOR: I am still upon the left, holding the roads to the left and rear. Everything is quiet this a. m. I have not yet heard from the

Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry. I am very anxious to have it join me, and send a staff officer to see if it can be found.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. KILPATRICK,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Cavalry.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Brevet Major-General KILPATRICK,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Your two communications of this date are received. The Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry is now with General Terry, and until the railroad is completed will be required for service between the army and Kinston, and so long as we draw supplies from that point there will be greater need than ever for foraging by the infantry.

I am, general, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, March 21, 1865—3 p. m.

General KILPATRICK,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I think General Mower has got around the flank toward Mill Creek, threatening the enemy's line of retreat. Look out, and in case of a general battle hold your cavalry massed and dash at infantry toward the Mill Creek bridge on the road from Bentonville to Smithfield.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Goldsborough, March 21, 1865.
(Received 25th.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *City Point, Va.:*

I have the honor to report that I occupied Goldsborough this p. m. with but slight opposition. General Terry's column from Wilmington was at Faison's Depot last night and should be near this place to-night. General Sherman's left was engaged with the enemy near Bentonville on Sunday. The artillery firing was quite rapid during the day, and for a short time Monday morning. General Sherman's right (the Seventeenth Corps) was near Mount Olive Sunday night. There has been some artillery firing during to-day, which indicates a gradual approach of General Sherman's army toward this place. All this being strictly in accordance with General Sherman's plans, I have no doubt all is well. I hope to have more definite and later information from General Sherman very soon, and will forward it to you without delay. I find the railroad bridges burned, but otherwise the road is not injured, and the depot facilities here are very fine. I captured here 7 cars, and General Terry has captured 2 locomotives and 2 cars, which he is now using.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Goldsborough, March 21, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I occupied Goldsborough this afternoon with only slight opposition. Your cipher dispatch of Sunday night has just reached me, but my cipher clerk has not yet come up. I will have my pontoon bridge laid early in the morning, and will be ready to carry out your orders as soon as I can get your dispatch deciphered. I infer from all that I have heard, including the sound of artillery, that your left had a pretty heavy fight on Sunday, and that you were probably compelled to concentrate your army, but that all is well and in accordance with your plans.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Major-General SCHOFIELD, *Commanding Army of the Ohio:*

GENERAL: Captain Twining is here and I send by him an order that you will perceive looks to staying here some days.* I thought Johnston, having failed, as he attempted to crush one of my wings, finding he had not succeeded but that I was present with my whole force, would withdraw, but he has not, and I must fight him here. He is twenty miles from Smithfield with a bad road to his rear, but his position is in the swamps, difficult of approach, and I don't like to assail his parapets, which are of the old kind. As soon as you get to Goldsborough leave a small garrison, break the bridge across Little River above the railroad, but use the one near its mouth at old Waynesborough and advance to Millard, where you can effect a junction with Terry. He need leave a very small picket at Cox's Bridge. Make up a force of about 25,000 men, leaving at Goldsborough Carter's division, if as I understand, it is composed of troops properly belonging to this army. Let me know the moment these combinations are made, when we can act. I would like to have your pontoon bridge across Neuse about Jericho, so that our trains to and from Kinston can use it. General Howard will bridge at or near Goldsborough and General Slocum at Cox's. The roads are now comparatively good and I want to make the most of the good weather, but the moment Johnston gives ground I propose to fall back on Goldsborough and await the completion of our railroad and re-equipment of my army. I will probably post you at Kinston, General Terry about Faison's, and this army at Goldsborough. You will probably find plenty of corn, bacon, and corn meal in the country from Waynesborough to Millard. The road near the Neuse is also better than the one back, as it is better drained. All the heads of creeks in this region are swamps and level pine lands that afford bad roads. I expect you surely at Goldsborough to-day and that you have at once secured the bridge across Little River. I don't think you will find over there anything but cavalry. Hoke is to our front. We took prisoners from his command yesterday.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

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*See Special Field Orders, No. 33, p. 930.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865—11.30 a. m.

Major-General SCHOFIELD, *Commanding Army of the Ohio:*

DEAR GENERAL: Yours of 5 p. m. 20th instant is just to hand and read by the general-in-chief, who directs me to say that full instructions have been forwarded you by Colonel Twining, who left us this a. m. Instructions have also been sent General Terry. As yet to-day it is comparatively quiet. The enemy does not seem disposed to persist in his attacks. His losses have been severe, while ours will not overreach 2,000 total.

I am, general, with respect, &c.,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *March 21, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD:

I have just arrived from Beaufort. Left Wilmington last evening. The boats had returned that I sent eighty miles up Northeast River with supplies for General Terry. He took everything that he could carry. I see everything is confusion at Beaufort. Had I not better return to Wilmington and move my office to New Berne and bring to this point everything that will be of service here, after giving the necessary instructions to my officers at Wilmington? General Easton desires me to bring him 400 good contrabands. I can get them at Wilmington. I would like to see you. Do you desire me to come to the front?

Respectfully,

GEO. S. DODGE,
Bvt. Brig. Gen. and Chief Quartermaster, Dept. of North Carolina.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
OFFICE CHIEF COMMISSARY,
Morehead City, March 21, 1865.

Col. J. W. BARRIGER,
Chief Commissary of Subsistence,
Department of North Carolina, New Berne, N. C.:

COLONEL: I am reliably informed that in the surrounding country within a circuit of twenty-five miles of Wilmington there exists a sufficient quantity of beef-cattle and sheep to subsist the troops in that vicinity for a long time. Owing to the high price of fresh beef and the difficulty in shipping cattle, I would advise that you cause foraging parties to be sent frequently to procure them for the use of the command at Wilmington and vicinity.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. BECKWITH,
Col., Aide-de-Camp, and Chief Com. of Sub., Mil. Div. of the Miss.

[Indorsement.]

OFFICE CHIEF COMMISSARY OF SUBSISTENCE,
DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., March 25, 1865.

Respectfully referred to Lieut. Col. J. A. Campbell, assistant adjutant-general, headquarters Department of North Carolina, with request,

if the major-general commanding approve the within, that orders be issued to the commanding general of the District of Wilmington to send out foraging parties and turn over the cattle, &c., obtained to Capt. F. G. Hentig, commissary of subsistence at Wilmington.

J. W. BARRIGER,
Lieut. Col. and Chief Commissary of Subsistence.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, Goldsborough, March 21, 1865.

Col. W. W. WRIGHT,
Chief Engineer, New Berne, N. C.:

I am directed by the major-general commanding to inform you that we have occupied Goldsborough, and the railroad is uninjured except as to the bridges. General Terry captured two locomotives and a number of cars south of the river. He desires you will push forward a section of the construction corps as rapidly as possible.

Very respectfully,

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Goldsborough, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Colonel SAVAGE,
Commanding Twelfth New York Cavalry:

COLONEL: The commanding general directs that you send a company of cavalry with the accompanying dispatches to Kinston, N. C., with instructions to return up the railroad, clearing it of any rebel scouts, and leaving it open and safe for the telegraph construction party to put up the wires. He desires the company to start about midnight.

Very respectfully,

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding at Cox's Bridge:

GENERAL: I have just learned of your arrival at Cox's Bridge by Major Graves, of your staff. I have no orders other than those sent you this morning. You can do nothing north of the Neuse River till the pontoon bridge reaches you. I have not heard by what road General Slocum sent it, but fear he sent it by the back road which will come into Cox's by way of Falling Creek Church. This rain will again spoil our roads, and it is vital to us to get supplies up. We have pretty well stripped this region, but I know there is a good country north of the Neuse. Find out as soon as you can when General Schofield is in Goldsborough and let me know. I think there is nothing in that quarter but cavalry and not much of that. From the front of infantry displayed by the enemy Johnston must have here his entire army.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Near Bentonville, N. C., March 21, 1865—6 p. m.

Major-General TERRY,
Cox's Bridge:

GENERAL: It is manifest that we are not to be favored with weather. After raining six weeks it has apparently set in for another six weeks. I wish whilst waiting for the pontoon train you would keep strong details corduroying the roads at the low places, especially in the bottoms of Falling Creek at both bridges, or at the bridges on both roads, viz, the one from Cox's to Goldsborough, and the one from Falling Creek School-House to Goldsborough. Better keep 1,000 men on detail for such work. We will corduroy back toward you, and you toward Goldsborough. Rails are pretty good, but pine saplings ten inches through the cut, split in two, the flat side laid down, make a better road. We have had some pretty sharp skirmishing all round the line, but nothing material either way. If I could get the railroad done to Goldsborough I would be better off than Johnston, as he has the same weather and, I think, a worse road to his base at Smithfield—both distances twenty miles. I am very anxious to hear of General Schofield at Goldsborough, and especially that the railroad is done to that point. It should have been completed before I got here.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Near Cox's Bridge, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES J. PAINE,
Commanding Third Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding requests that, as soon as the pontoon bridge is completed, you will order the brigade of your command stationed at the river to cross the pontoon and intrench on the other side so as to form a strong bridge-head, with both flanks resting on the river and the salient well thrown forward.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *March 21, 1865.*

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Provisional Corps:

SIR: I send Mr. Phelps, master mechanic, with six carpenters, six machinists, and twenty laborers up to Magnolia and thereabouts, with full instructions to repair any and all cars that he can catch, and I explain to him all that you tell me about the machine-shop at Magnolia. Wallace, president of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, tells me the superintendent did not mean to send tools away from Magnolia if he could help it. The trouble is not in finding mechanics, but the tools are missing. I am hunting up the creek for some, giving notice in the town, offering employment to such as will bring tools, &c. I also send Captain McClure, of the engineers, to make a temporary landing place at Northeast. He takes a party. I send on the same steamer another load of provisions. If you can keep the rebels off we

can help you a great deal, even with this bit of road. A new locomotive has come, but very few men with it. I've a good mind to try and take it above Northeast. Pray advise Phelps about that. A great pity those bridges cannot be built. If we had axes and shovels we could try one of them and much other work. Four hundred thousand hard-bread rations are at the bar; a portion are on their way up. Six thousand refugees have arrived in one column. This gives us enough land transportation for all local purposes.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. R. HAWLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Three thousand eight hundred sick in hospital; deaths, eighteen or twenty a day. Rev. Mr. Eaton, Seventh Connecticut, died yesterday of typhoid fever. Dr. Palmer died of the same this morning, both from overwork. Buzzell is dangerously ill. Sanitary steamer with a blessed cargo arrived yesterday.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WILMINGTON,
Wilmington, N. C., March 21, 1865.

SENIOR NAVAL OFFICER,
Cape Fear River and Harbor:

SIR: I have the honor to submit for your consideration one or two matters in which the navy can assist me materially. Not being familiar with your practices, you can advise as to what can be done. Vessels regularly employed by the quartermasters of the army should never sail without written orders from the chief quartermaster here, or at least the quartermaster in charge of water transportation. Bvt. Brig. Gen. G. S. Dodge is chief quartermaster of the department, and Capt. S. T. Lamb is in charge of water transportation here. Sutlers' and traders' vessels are not required to take papers from quartermasters, but in absence of custom-house officers I require my assistant provost-marshals to search all such vessels, and they should not be allowed to leave the port without a clearance from one of them. Lieut. Col. James F. Randlett is my provost-marshal for Wilmington, assisted by Captain Edgerly. Now what I would much like is to have your guard ship hail all vessels going out particularly (you have your own instructions as to those coming in), and see their papers. It will not do to take their word. All trading or sutlers' vessels that have not the provost-marshal's clearance should be seized. If they are so seized and reported to me I will punish the masters severely. You know, of course, that there is a great temptation to steal here and enough of opportunity. I have been anxious to call on you, but I am driven beyond endurance by the press of business. I hope soon to have the honor of calling. Is it possible for you to keep a picket boat a little way up the Cape Fear, northwest, to examine people coming down by boats? Except deserters coming from the rebels, escaped Federal prisoners, and absolutely destitute, starving citizens, I wish nobody to come to town for the present. There are 6,000 refugees on Point Peter. We shall try to keep most of them there until they can be shipped or distributed on plantations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. R. HAWLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WILMINGTON,
Wilmington, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Lieutenant-Colonel COLVIN, *Comdg. U. S. Forces, Levison Creek:*

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs me to inform you that the train of refugees from Sherman's army has arrived here, and that as there is no further occasion for your command to remain at Levison Creek, you will come at once to this city with all your command, reporting on your arrival to Brevet Brigadier-General Abbott, commanding post.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
E. LEWIS MOORE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. HDQRS. DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
New Berne, N. C., March 21, 1865.

In accordance with orders from headquarters Department of North Carolina, Army of the Ohio, the undersigned hereby assumes command of this district, it being the same organization, with some additions, formerly under his command and known as the District of North Carolina. All existing orders and regulations will remain in force until otherwise ordered. The following officers are announced as the staff: Capt. J. A. Judson, assistant adjutant-general, U. S. Volunteers, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. E. T. Parkinson, assistant adjutant-general, U. S. Volunteers, assistant adjutant-general; Lieut. Col. James H. Strong, First North Carolina (Union) Volunteers, acting assistant inspector-general; Capt. J. K. Wing, assistant quartermaster, U. S. Volunteers, chief quartermaster; Capt. William L. Palmer, commissary of subsistence, U. S. Volunteers, chief commissary of subsistence; First Lieut. C. T. Pearce, Fifth Rhode Island Artillery, ordnance officer; First Lieut. J. B. Bissell, Fifteenth Connecticut Volunteers, chief provost-marshal and provost judge; First Lieut. William Goodrich, jr., Fifteenth Connecticut Volunteers, aide-de-camp; First Lieut. E. M. Ketcham, Twelfth New York Volunteer Cavalry, acting aide-de-camp.

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 1. HDQRS. DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT,
New Berne, N. C., March 21, 1865.

I. The two companies of the Second Massachusetts Artillery now in New Berne will be at once reported to Col. Charles H. Stewart, Third New York Artillery, commanding the town, for provost guard duty.

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By command of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, March 22, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: Accept my thanks for your very welcome letter from Fayetteville.* With the whole country I have been watching in hope,

* See March 12, p. 793.

confidence, and admiration your advance from Savannah toward the final conquest of the rebellion. It will gratify me very much to hear from you directly whenever you have time to address me a line. My earnest prayer is that Divine Providence may watch over you, shield and protect you from every danger, and crown you with its choicest blessings. I take advantage of General Meigs' visit to your army, for the purpose of seeing to its proper supplies, to say God speed you.

Yours, truly,

EDWIN M. STANTON.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: Although the Richmond papers do not communicate the fact, yet I saw enough in them to satisfy me that you occupied Goldsborough on the 19th instant. I congratulate you and the army on what may be regarded as the successful termination of the third campaign since leaving the Tennessee River less than one year ago. Since Sheridan's very successful raid north of the James the enemy are left dependent on the South Side and Danville roads for all their supplies. These I hope to cut next week. Sheridan is at White House shoeing up and resting his cavalry. I expect him to finish by Friday night and to start the following morning via Long Bridge, New Market, Bermuda Hundred and the extreme left of the army, around Petersburg. He will make no halt with the armies operating here, but will be joined by a division of cavalry 5,500 strong from the Army of the Potomac, and will proceed directly to the South Side and Danville roads. His instructions will be to strike the South Side road as near Petersburg as he can and destroy it so that it cannot be repaired for three or four days, and push on to the Danville road as near to the Appomattox as he can get. Then I want him to destroy the road toward Burkeville as far as he can, then push on to the South Side road west of Burkeville and destroy it effectually. From that point I shall probably leave it to his discretion either to return to this army, crossing the Danville road south of Burkeville, or go and join you, passing between Danville and Greensborough. When this movement commences I shall move out by my left with all the force I can, holding present intrenched lines. I shall start with no distinct view further than holding Lee's forces from following Sheridan, but I shall be along myself and will take advantage of anything that turns up. If Lee detaches I will attack, or if he comes out of his lines I will endeavor to repulse him and follow it up to the best advantage. It is most difficult to understand what the rebels intend to do. So far but few troops have been detached from Lee's army. Much machinery has been removed and material has been sent to Lynchburg, showing a disposition to go there. Points, too, have been fortified on the Danville road. Lee's army is much demoralized and great numbers are deserting. Probably from returned prisoners and such conscripts as can be picked up his numbers may be kept up. I estimate his force now at about 65,000 men. Wilson started on Monday with 12,000 cavalry from Eastport. Stoneman started on the same day from East Tennessee toward Lynchburg. Thomas is moving the Fourth Corps to Bull's Gap. Canby is moving with a formidable force on Mobile and the interior of Alabama. I ordered Gillmore, as soon as the fall of Charleston was known, to hold

all important posts on the seacoast and to send to Wilmington all surplus forces. Thomas was also directed to forward to New Berne all troops belonging to the corps with you. I understand this will give you about 5,000 men besides those brought east by Meagher. I have been telegraphing General Meigs to hasten up locomotives and cars for you. General McCallum, he informs me, is attending to it. I fear they are not going forward as fast as I would like. Let me know if you want more troops or anything else.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Cox's Bridge, over Neuse River, N. C.,
March 22, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *Commander-in-Chief, City Point, Va.:*

GENERAL: I wrote you from Fayetteville, N. C., on Tuesday, the 14th instant, that I was all ready to start for Goldsborough, to which point I had also ordered General Schofield from New Berne, and General Terry from Wilmington. I knew that General Joe Johnston was supreme in command against me, and that he would have time to concentrate a respectable army to oppose the last stage of this march. Accordingly General Slocum was ordered to send his main supply train under escort of two divisions straight for Bentonville, whilst he, with his other four divisions disencumbered of all unnecessary wagons, should march toward Raleigh by way of threat as far as Averasborough. General Howard in like manner sent his trains with the Seventeenth Corps well to the right, and with the four divisions of the Fifteenth Corps took roads which would enable [him] to come promptly to the exposed left flank. We started on the 15th, but again the rains set in, and the roads, already bad enough, became horrible. On Thursday, the 15th [16th], General Slocum found Hardee's army from Charleston, which had retreated before us from Cheraw, in position across the narrow, swampy neck between Cape Fear and North Rivers, where the road branches off to Goldsborough. There a pretty severe fight occurred, in which General Slocum's troops carried handsomely the advanced line held by a South Carolina brigade, commanded by a Colonel Butler. Its commander, Colonel Rhett, of Fort Sumter notoriety, with one of his staff, had the night before been captured by some of General Kilpatrick's scouts from his very skirmish line. The next morning Hardee was found gone and was pursued through and beyond Averasborough. General Slocum buried 108 dead rebels, and captured and destroyed 3 guns. Some 80 wounded rebels were left in our hands, and after dressing their wounds we left them in a house attended by a Confederate officer and four privates detailed out of our prisoners and paroled for the purpose. We resumed the march toward Goldsborough. I was with the Left Wing until I supposed all danger was passed, but when General Slocum's head of column was within four miles of Bentonville, after skirmishing as usual with cavalry, he became aware that there was infantry at his front. He deployed a couple of brigades, which, on advancing, sustained a partial repulse but soon rallied, and he formed a line of the two leading divisions, Morgan's and Carlin's, of Jeff. C. Davis' corps. The enemy attacked these with violence but was repulsed. This was in the forenoon of Sunday, the 19th. General Slocum brought forward the two divisions of the Twentieth Corps, and hastily disposed of them for defense, and General Kilpatrick massed his cavalry on the left.

General Joe Johnston had the night before marched his whole army, Bragg, Cheatham, S. D. Lee, Hardee, and all the troops he had drawn from every quarter, determined, as he told his men, to crush one of our corps and then defeat us in detail. He attacked Slocum in position from 3 p. m. of the 19th till dark, but was everywhere repulsed and lost fearfully. At the time I was with the Fifteenth Corps, marching on a road more to the right, but on hearing of Slocum's danger directed that corps toward Cox's Bridge and that night brought Blair's corps over, and on the 20th marched rapidly on Johnston's flank and rear. We struck him about noon and forced him to assume the defensive and to fortify. Yesterday we pushed him hard, and came very near crushing him, the right division of the Seventeenth Corps, Mower's, having broken in to within 100 yards of where Johnston himself was, at the bridge across Mill Creek. Last night he retreated, leaving us in possession of the field, dead and wounded. We have over 2,000 prisoners from this affair and the one at Averasborough, and am satisfied that Johnston's army was so roughly handled yesterday that we could march right on to Raleigh, but we have now been out six weeks, living precariously upon the collections of our foragers, our men "dirty, ragged, and saucy," and we must rest and fix up a little. Our entire losses thus far, killed, wounded, and prisoners, will be covered by 2,500, a great part of which are, as usual, slight wounds. The enemy has lost more than double as many, and we have in prisoners alone full 2,000. I limited the pursuit this morning to Mill Creek, and will forthwith march the army to Goldsborough to rest, reclothe, and get some rations. Our combinations were such that Schofield entered Goldsborough from New Berne, Terry got Cox's Bridge with pontoons laid and a brigade across intrenched, and we whipped Joe Johnston, all on the same day.

After riding over the field of battle to-day near Bentonville, and making the necessary orders, I have ridden down to this place, Cox's Bridge, to see General Terry, and to-morrow shall ride into Goldsborough. I propose to collect there my army proper; shall put General Terry about Faison's Depot and General Schofield about Kinston, partly to protect the road, but more to collect such food and forage as the country affords, until the railroads are repaired leading into Goldsborough. I fear these have not been pushed with the vigor I expected, but I will soon have them both going. I shall proceed forthwith to reorganize the three armies into bodies of 25,000 men each, and will try and be all ready to march to Raleigh or Weldon, as we may determine, by or before April 10. I inclose you a copy of my orders of to-day.* I would like to be more specific but have not the data. We have lost no general officers or no organization. Slocum took three guns at Averasborough, and lost three at the first dash on him at Bentonville. We have all of our wagons and trains in good order.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

GOLDSBOROUGH, N. C., *March 22, 1865.*

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding:

GENERAL: I continued down the river from Cox's Bridge on the south side, and find that there are two additional pontoon bridges over the Neuse, one at the Neck, and one at the "county bridge." Another

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See Special Field Orders, No. 35, Part I, p. 44.

will be finished in an hour. It will be at the railroad bridge. I have sent Major Blake [?], of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, to try to reach Cox's Bridge via Millard, and as soon as General Schofield returns will deliver your message. Colonel Wright, I am informed, is at New Berne, and I will telegraph to him your instructions, but will not go there myself unless I am directed to do so. I think Major Blake [?] will not get through on the north side of the river, as the enemy's pickets are reported beyond Little River. General Schofield has just returned, and will write you by the same messenger that carries this.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. M. POE,
Brevet Colonel, &c.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
March 22, 1865.

W. W. WRIGHT, *Chief Engineer Military Railroads:*

General Sherman directs me to say to you that he is very anxious to have the railroad finished to Goldsborough as soon as possible, and to that end he wishes you to work day and night, authorizing you to pay any price that will further the work, and to impress citizens or anybody or anything else. He wished me to see you in person, but I can't go down to where you are at present.

O. M. POE,
Colonel and Chief Engineer.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Cox's Bridge, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Brevet Brigadier-General BECKWITH, *New Berne:*

GENERAL: We whipped Johnston yesterday at Bentonville. The army will march for Goldsborough. Be prepared to feed this army, 60,000, at Goldsborough; General Schofield's 20,000 at Kinston; General Terry's 10,000 at Faison's Depot, and General Kilpatrick's 5,000 at Mount Olive Station. The two former will draw up by the New Berne road, and the two latter by the Wilmington road. Show this to General Easton. I will be at Goldsborough to-morrow, and will advise you more fully.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, *March 22, 1865.*

FREDERICK LEACH,
Military Railroad Agent, No. 29 Nassau Street, New York:

Report at once the number of locomotives and cars sent to North Carolina. If practicable, let cars be taken to pieces, and running gear and platforms only shipped for the present. Every minute is of the utmost value. Answer.

D. C. McCALLUM,
Brevet Brigadier-General and General Manager.

[MARCH 22, 1865.—For Sherman's congratulatory order, see Special Field Orders, No. 35, Part I, p. 44.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865—6 a. m.

Major-General SHERMAN:

GENERAL: General Blair reports that the enemy have left his front, and prisoners report have fallen back about two miles.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: General Schofield reports from Goldsborough, which he occupied with little opposition, so that our campaign is an eminent success. Let Slocum have the roads to-day, and to-morrow move at your leisure to your new position on the right of Goldsborough, facing north, first south of the Neuse and next north. I will promise that no pains or efforts on my part shall be spared to supply your command in the most thorough manner before calling on them for new efforts.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Cox's Bridge, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Sherman to inform you that he will go into Goldsborough to-morrow morning by the road south of Neuse River. Major-General Slocum will cross the Neuse River at this point, thus giving you a clear road to Goldsborough, to which place you will move your command and occupy the section of ground covering Goldsborough from the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, on the north around to your right, and to the Neuse River on the east. Major-General Slocum will with his command connect with you on the north of Goldsborough, and extend from the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad around to his left to Little and Neuse Rivers on the west. There are two bridges here and General Schofield has three at Goldsborough.

I am, general, with respect, &c.,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 68.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will move to-morrow by the most direct road to Grantham's house, near Falling Creek Church. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will move to-morrow to the school house near Falling Creek, either by the same route followed by the Left Wing to-day or

by some country roads, avoiding that taken by the Fifteenth Army Corps. In case the Left Wing should use the river road after passing Cox's Bridge General Logan will cross Falling Creek near Grantham's house, and will see that the crossing at that point is put in repair. These headquarters will move with the Seventeenth Army Corps and be established to-morrow at the school-house near Falling Creek.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 21 [22?], 1865.

Captain VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inform you that at daylight we took possession of the enemy's line of works in our front and are now pushing skirmishers forward. The rebels are retreating down this road in direction of the river.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am very anxious to know whether the enemy is making for Smithfield, or attempting to cross the river in order to go after Schofield. In case the enemy makes a bridge-head at Mill Creek have all your artillery brought forward and brought to bear on it. What do the prisoners say?

Very respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to inform you that the pontoon bridge is now being put down over the Neuse River, just below the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. As soon as we arrive there what is known as the temporary depot will be broken up, and everything moved over the river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Blair.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inquire at what hour I shall burn the bridge across Mill Creek and withdraw General Woods' division preparatory to the movement from this point.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JOHN A. LOGAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general to say, in answer to your note, that General Woods' division may be withdrawn at any time, leaving a strong picket at the bridge, which you may burn toward morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR FALLING CREEK, *March 22, 1865.*

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I received last night from General Howard an order to move the trains this morning to Everettsville, and am pulling out early this morning. The roads are said to be bad. A brigade of the Twenty-fifth Army Corps are here and will be in our rear. I apprehend no danger. No train has been started for Kinston yet, for the reason that there was no guard for it, and then Colonel Carpenter has not yet arrived with the empty wagons from the front. Everettsville will be on the way, however, and the empty part of the train can keep directly on.

I am, major, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,
G. L. FORT,
Lieut. Col. and Chief Quartermaster, Fifteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that my skirmishers were thrown forward a short time before daylight this a. m., and that they soon ascertained the enemy had withdrawn, as shown in my note this morning.

The Second Brigade, Colonel Catterson commanding, was, by direction of Major-General Logan, very shortly afterward started out toward Bentonville on the Smithfield road, with a view to ascertaining the movements of the rebels. Passing beyond Mill Creek at Bentonville, Colonel Catterson soon met with the rear guard of the rebel column

and at once began skirmishing, continuing as far as Hannah's Creek, where he destroyed the bridge, and in compliance with instructions, returned to Bentonville. In the meantime, in obedience to directions received from the major-general commanding, I had moved the balance of my division up to this place, and I at once placed Colonel Catterson in position on this bank of Mill Creek, covering both the upper and lower bridges, holding the balance of my division in reserve. In compliance with your communication received this afternoon, I moved the remainder of the division back to the works occupied last night, leaving Bentonville at 6 p. m. Colonel Catterson remains with his brigade to destroy the bridge, and will not return to the division until 4 a. m. to-morrow. He had already cut away the lower bridge.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Grantham's House, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that this division broke camp at 1 p. m. to-day, marching to this point, which was reached at about 6 p. m. Distance, eight miles and a half.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command has remained in camp during the day, in same positions as mentioned in report of yesterday, the 21st instant.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations and movements of my command this instant: Near the hour of 3 a. m. the skirmishers of my division front entered the works of the enemy and pushed forward to the bridge across Hannah's Creek, meeting with but little resistance and picking up a number of prisoners, a list of which will be forwarded through the provost-marshal's department. One brigade was moved into the abandoned works of the enemy as a support to the line of skirmishers, which had gone forward, which position it now occupies. In compliance with instructions, one brigade and my pioneer corps were sent out for repairs upon

the road to be pursued by the corps on the 23d instant. This work is reported to have been accomplished thoroughly, and the connecting road between the Bentonville and the road running nearly parallel therewith and to the right is now in condition to pass the trains of the corps.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN M. CORSE,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 49.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

1. The troops composing this division will break camp at 6 a. m. to-morrow, the 23d instant, moving upon Grantham's house, near Falling Creek Church. The order of brigades as follows: First, Second, Third. Two regiments will move in advance and two in rear of trains, the remainder of the troops moving by the side of trains. Trains in same order as heretofore, well closed up. Brigade trains in the order of their respective brigades.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John M. Corse:

L. H. EVERTS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 73.

HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Bentonville, N. C., March 22, 1865.

* * * * * * *

III. This command will move to-morrow by the river road to Falling Creek. Major-General Mower, commanding First Division, will have the advance and will move at 7 a. m. The Third Division, Brig. Gen. M. F. Force commanding, will follow the First Division. The Fourth Division, Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith commanding, will follow the Third Division. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will act as rear guard.

* * * * * * *

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Mill Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. F. P. BLAIR,
Commanding Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: My skirmishers have just taken possession of Mill Creek bridge. General Hardee left here this morning just before our skirmishers arrived. According to the best information I can gather, he will not make a fight on the west side of Mill Creek unless he is closely pursued. My line of battle is within half a mile of Mill Creek.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. MOWER,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding Division.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Capt. C. CADLE, Jr.,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Seventeenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that my division has been ordered back to camp by Major-General Howard.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. MOWER,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 22, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: Your train is reported three miles back in camp. The officer in charge does not know whether to remain there or take the road when the Fourteenth Corps gets out of his way. Please send him such orders as you see proper. We move back on that road to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
March 22, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say to you that you may withdraw your command into camp and let the men make themselves as comfortable as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Bentonville, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Brig. Gen. M. F. FORCE,
Commanding Third Division, Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say to you that he desires you to move your troops on the left of the train to-morrow.

Very respectfully,

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. LEFT WING, ARMY OF GEORGIA,
No. 29. } *Cox's Bridge, N. C., March 22, 1865.*

I. The Fourteenth Corps will move to-morrow morning at daylight, crossing the Neuse River at this point, and will proceed direct to Goldsborough by the first road north of the river. General Davis will

send forward a strong pioneer party to corduroy the road on each side of the Neuse. The corps will be encamped on the northwest side of Goldsborough, about a mile distant from the town.

II. The Twentieth Corps will follow the Fourteenth Corps, marching by the same road. The corps will for the present be encamped near the town, connecting with the right of the Fourteenth Corps.

III. The pontoon train will remain at this point for the use of Major-General Terry's command, and will, as soon as possible, proceed to Goldsborough by the road on the south side of the river.

IV. The First Michigan Engineers will accompany the Fourteenth Corps.

V. Both corps will encamp in regular order, two brigades of each division in front and one in reserve. As soon as possible after reaching the permanent camp at Goldsborough, the wagon trains will be brought up to the camps, and arrangements made for taking care of the sick and wounded. The reports of the recent campaign, together with requisitions for all necessary supplies for another campaign, will be sent in without delay.

By command of Maj. Gen. H. W. Slocum:

ROBT. P. DECHERT,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING,
March 22, 1865.

Brevet Major-General DAVIS:

GENERAL: General Slocum directs me to say that he is informed by General Logan that the enemy have left some of your wounded at the bridge over Mill Creek.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. MOSELEY,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

General Logan has sent some ambulances there and the general wishes that you send surgeons and attendants.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 25.

HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C.,
March 22, 1865.

General Morgan will move his division, with all his trains, immediately, upon the direct road running through his lines, for Cox's Bridge. General Carlin will follow General Morgan, and General Baird will follow General Carlin. Corps headquarters, and the reserve artillery, will move with General Morgan.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 26.

HDQRS. FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Neuse River, near Cox's Bridge,
March 22, 1865.

General Baird will march to-morrow at daylight, and crossing the pontoon bridge near this point, will take the direct road through Golds-

borough and encamp beyond on ground to be designated to him. General Carlin will follow General Baird and will camp as above. General Morgan will follow General Carlin and will camp as above. Major Houghtaling will report to General Carlin and move under his direction. Left Wing headquarters will be admitted into the column at such point as may be selected. Corps headquarters will move with General Carlin. In moving through Goldsborough each division will be closed compactly, and march with colors flying and bands playing.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis:

A. C. McCLURG,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Falling Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. H. W. SLOCUM,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: I have reached this point with my entire command. I could have moved a portion of my command farther, but found the road occupied by the Second Division, Fifteenth Corps. They have passed and are out of the way. I shall push on to Cox's Bridge at daylight in the morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
Near Falling Creek, N. C., March 22, 1865.

This command will march to-morrow to Cox's Bridge, in the same order as to-day, viz, Second Division, Michigan Engineers, Third Division, First Division. The Second Division will start at 6 a. m. The other commands will start in season to keep well closed up to the rear of those that precede them. The trains of each division will follow its division, excepting the Second Division train, which will follow the Michigan Engineers, and will be covered by them. The trains of the Michigan Engineers will follow the regiment. General Jackson will detail one regiment as a rear guard. The artillery will march in rear of the Michigan Engineers.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Near Bentonville, N. C., March 22, 1865—10 a. m.

Major-General KILPATRICK,
Commanding Cavalry Forces:

GENERAL: The enemy having retreated precipitately and in disorder from our front, and we not being in a condition as to supplies to follow up, will move on Goldsborough, from which place I have nothing definite. General Terry reports that he has crossed the Neuse to the north

bank, where he has a brigade intrenched. From that position I can take Goldsborough without delay or trouble. I shall go there to-night. General Slocum's wing will also be at or near Cox's, but General Howard will remain till morning. To-morrow morning, unless nothing happens in the interval, move your cavalry slowly and in order by a circuit to the south to Mount Olive Station, on the Wilmington and Goldsborough road, and report to me from there by letter. General Terry on his way up secured two locomotives and a few old cars, and found the road in good order from Northeast Branch, near Wilmington, to Mount Olive, so that I hope to be able to supply you food and forage from that quarter, which will relieve the New Berne road, which for some reason was more damaged by the enemy. Nevertheless continue, as heretofore, to gather all the food and forage of the country you can. I claim, of course, the absolute right to all property lying south of our route of march, and care not how close you pinch the inhabitants, if it be done without pillage of the mere household goods and apparel of women. General Schofield reports this morning from Goldsborough. So our campaign is an eminent success.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Goldsborough, March 22, 1865.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: I beg leave to renew the request I made some time ago in a letter to the Adjutant-General that some of the new regiments recently organized in the Western States may be assigned to the Twenty-third Army Corps. The terms of service of some of the old regiments have already expired, and they have been mustered out. Others will have to be mustered out soon. Unless other regiments are added the corps will soon be below the minimum organization in number of regiments.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Goldsborough, N. C., March 22, 1865—1.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

Near a month ago I wrote you a letter requesting that Maj. Gen. J. D. Cox be assigned to the command of the Twenty-third Army Corps and that the remaining troops in this department be organized into a corps under command of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry. Having received no reply, I presume my letter did not reach you, therefore I beg leave to renew the request. But, if it be not deemed advisable to organize a corps for General Terry, I nevertheless respectfully request that Major-General Cox may be assigned to the command of the Twenty-third Corps.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

GOLDSBOROUGH, N. C., *March 23, 1865.*

I approve this. I know that General Cox is a good officer, and General Terry has the best possible reputation. General Schofield will want two corps organizations as quick as possible.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, March 22, 1865—10 a. m.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Goldsborough:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of yesterday is just received. We whipped all of Joe Johnston's army yesterday, and he retreated in disorder in the night. We are in possession of the field and our skirmishers are after his rear guard two miles north of Mill Creek. We are not in condition as to supplies to follow up, but will gradually draw back to Goldsborough and refit. Push the repairs of railroad back to New Berne. You need not advance to Millard, but secure all the bridges across Little River and lay your pontoons across Neuse near the main road south, unless in the meantime you have used it on Little River.

We have many prisoners and I think we can get along till our wagons get back from Kinston. General Slocum will move to-day to Cox's Bridge, but General Howard will remain till morning, and follow to Goldsborough. I will go to Cox's to-day, and if you have gone to Millard, will communicate with you. If this finds you at Millard draw back to the Little River on the Goldsborough side. I will not move against Raleigh till we are resupplied.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Goldsborough, March 22, 1865—2 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I have just received your dispatch of this morning to General Terry, informing him of Johnston's retreat, &c.* You are, I presume, by this aware of my occupation of this place, as Colonel Poe informs me he met my messenger at General Terry's. I also learn that Terry has secured his lodgment on the north bank of the river. I am now in doubt whether you wish me to move up to Millard, as before ordered, but presume not, since Johnston has retreated. I am fortifying my position here and rebuilding the bridge over Little River. I will be ready to move at any moment, if you so direct.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

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*See Sherman to Terry, 6.30 a. m., p. 964.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Goldsborough, March 22, 1865—3.45 p. m.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: I have just received your dispatch of 10 a. m., and congratulate you most heartily upon your success. I find that the dispositions I have made here are in accordance with your wishes. I will do all possible to hurry up the railroad. The last reports are quite favorable. I think we may expect the cars here in four or five days at farthest.

Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Cox's Bridge, March 22, 1865.

Major-General SCHOFIELD,
Commanding Army of the Ohio, Goldsborough:

GENERAL: I send Major McCoy in with a letter for General Grant, which I wish you to send with dispatch. I will come in to-morrow and the troops will begin to arrive to-morrow evening and next day. I propose to group this army at Goldsborough north of the Neuse and east of Little River—your present force about Kinston, and General Terry's about Faison's. The cavalry will be posted at Mount Olive—all this for the sake of forage. I hope that the Wilmington road will feed Generals Kilpatrick and Terry.

Yours,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Goldsborough, March 22, 1865.

Major-General SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi:

GENERAL: In your letter of yesterday you speak of putting me at Kinston and Terry at Faison's, while the main army remains about Goldsborough. Unless you have special reasons for this disposition, I would much prefer to have my troops at the same place while preparing for future operations. I have a good deal to do to get them in proper shape. Will you please let me see you before the order is made?

Yours, very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, N. C., *March 22, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

We entered this place last night with slight opposition. Are in communication with Sherman and Terry. All is lovely.

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

NEW BERNE, *March 22, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Goldsborough:

The Neuse River bridge will be completed to-morrow, as I informed you when at Kinston. I will go up to the construction party to-morrow and remain with them till we get the road completed to Goldsborough. I think I can get a section through by rail as soon as I could move them by wagons, and I don't know that I could get wagons for that purpose.

W. W. WRIGHT,
Colonel and Chief Engineer.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, Goldsborough, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding Provisional Corps:

The commanding general directs that you take possession immediately of the upper crossing of the Little River and intrench a bridgehead. The bridge will be reconstructed. Captain Twining, chief engineer, will send a part of the engineer battalion to assist.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Goldsborough, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding Provisional Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the commanding general to ask you to cause the bridge over Little River nearest to its mouth to be reconstructed at once. General Terry is still at Cox's Bridge, and the main portion of General Sherman's army at Bentonville.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Goldsborough, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding Provisional Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general is informed that the railroad depot at this place has been fired, and desires you to investigate the matter and report the causes, and the incendiary, if any.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Goldsborough, March 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. D. COX,
Commanding Provisional Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires that you make a detail of 100 men, in charge of a good officer, with pioneer tools, to report to the officer in charge of the pontoon train at the railroad bridge.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Goldsborough, March 22, 1865.

Col. JAMES W. SAVAGE,
Commanding Twelfth New York Cavalry:

The commanding general directs that you scout all the country adjacent to the Kinston railroad. Find that South Carolina cavalry and whip it. He is assured there is not enough force in that country to whip you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. M. WHERRY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL CORPS, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
Goldsborough, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Brigadier-General CARTER, &c.:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you order one regiment of your command to proceed at daylight to-morrow morning to the railroad bridge at Bear Creek, for the purpose of guarding the crossing and getting out timber for the reconstruction of the bridge. If you require more axes than you now have, Brigadier-General Henderson, commanding Third Brigade, Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, will turn over to your quartermaster two or three dozen new ones.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEO. COX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 22, 1865—6.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general-in-chief to write you. The effect of the operations of our skirmishers yesterday and last night has been that the enemy has left his position and retired toward or beyond Mill Creek, and we are at this moment pursuing with skirmishers, but with no intention of going beyond Mill Creek. The general desires you to use all possible expedition in effecting a crossing at Cox's Bridge over Neuse, getting the bridge down at the earliest practicable moment. If the bridge train has not reached you, he wishes that you send couriers to it to hurry up. Communicate these facts

to Major-General Schofield, and that General Sherman expects him to occupy Goldsborough at once. Johnston may attempt sending a force there from Smithfield, and therefore it is important for General Schofield to occupy Goldsborough. Let your dispatch bearer go at a gallop.

I am, with respect,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL ARMY CORPS,
Cox's Bridge, March 22, 1865.

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding, that the pontoon train ordered to this point arrived last night at about 7 o'clock. A bridge was laid across the river at 12 o'clock; a brigade was immediately moved across and is now intrenching.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, near Bentonville, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding at Cox's Bridge:

GENERAL: I have just been to the front; Johnston retreated last night on Smithfield in some confusion, leaving dead and wounded. We have pursued two miles beyond Mill Creek, but are not in a condition as to supplies to follow up our advantage, which amounts to a substantial victory, and accordingly I have ordered the army to move toward Goldsborough. I can't imagine why I don't hear from General Schofield. Until I know he has Goldsborough I must direct my attention on that point. I commend highly your promptness in securing the crossing at Cox's. If you observe any of the enemy's forces on the north side move across a whole division, and intrench it so as to command all the outlet roads, and so that, if I choose, I can cross General Slocum's wing there, and move out against the railroad between Goldsborough and Smithfield. I will probably come down to-day and stay with you.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Near Cox's Bridge, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. Ames, commanding Second Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps, will cause the camps of that portion of his command which are now on the left of the road to Cox's Bridge to be removed to the right of that road immediately, occupying the same field that is now partially occupied by the First Brigade of his division.

By order of Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Near Cox's Bridge, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES J. PAINE,
Commanding Third Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding requests that you will at once send across the pontoon bridge General Bates and Myrick's battery to the position now occupied by General Duncan's brigade. You will please intrench as strongly as possible a sufficient space to contain your whole division.

By order of Major-General Terry:

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Cox's Bridge, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Brig. Gen. C. J. PAINE,
Commanding Third Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding is informed that a portion of your command is burning buildings and destroying property in front of and within our lines, and has directed me to say that while proper foraging is not prohibited, and indeed absolutely necessary for the support of the command, wanton destruction cannot be permitted, and you will please take measures to put a stop to it immediately.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. TERRY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 22, 1865.
(Received 11.10 a. m. 25th.)

Major-General HALLECK:

GENERAL: The first load of troops belonging to General Sherman's army will start for North Carolina to-morrow, and a second load will start the next day after. There are between 7,000 and 8,000 of Sherman's men here.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HILTON HEAD, S. C., *March 22, 1865—10 a. m.*
(Received 11.30 a. m. 25th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Your dispatch of the 12th is received. I have sent two brigades and a half to Wilmington, amounting to over 4,000 men. Orders from General Sherman, dated the 12th at Fayetteville, direct me to send an expedition of 2,500 men to Sumterville and Florence to destroy railroad stock and munitions. A copy of his dispatch is sent you by mail.* From General Grant's order of February 19, I judge that in case of a conflict of orders I must carry out General Sherman's.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

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*See Sherman to Foster, p. 804.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 22, 1865.

Brig. Gen. J. PRINCE,
Commanding Camp of Reception, Blair's Landing:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to state that transportation is now arriving from the North for your troops. You are directed to have the troops in readiness to embark at once. The vessels being of large draft, will go up the river as high as possible, and you will have to embark your troops with the aid of the steamer now in your charge.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 22, 1865.

Brig. Gen. JOHN P. HATCH,
Comdg. Northern District, Dept. of the South, Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding has placed the following indorsement upon your letter of the 15th instant, requesting instructions concerning the disposal of the cotton and other property which you have seized in the city of Charleston and its vicinity:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 22, 1865.

General Hatch's course with regard to the cotton found in Charleston is approved. All cotton will be taken possession of and held for further orders from these headquarters. Instructions with regard to other property about which there is any doubt, whether it be captured, abandoned, or confiscable, will be sent to General Hatch in a few days. Property which, beyond doubt, is either captured or abandoned will be turned over to the Treasury agents, except what may be required for military purposes.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SAVANNAH, *March 22, 1865.*

His Excellency EDWIN STANTON,
Secretary of War:

HONORABLE SIR: I feel it my duty, as the head of the Catholic Church in Savannah, to inform you of the proceedings ordered by the military authorities against the Catholic cemetery of this city, to give expression to what I deem a legitimate complaint, and to enter a solemn protest in the name of the Catholic community.

Fortifications are now being erected upon the Catholic cemetery. A few days ago I received a communication, written by order of General Gillmore, informing me that he (the general) would make a personal inspection of the locality, and wished me to accompany him to the cemetery. On hearing of the arrival of the general in Savannah I did all I could to find him out, but in vain; and the day after his visit I learned, altogether accidentally, that 300 men were to be the next day on the graveyard to proceed to the work of disinterring the dead and erecting fortifications on their tombs. I thus had no chance to apply to Your Excellency at least for a suspension of the work.

It is my duty now to tell you that the cemetery infringed upon by Federal orders is the property of the Catholic Church, and has been by a solemn benediction devoted to the purpose of burying the dead. I must tell you that cemeteries are, in the views of the Catholic Church, consecrated ground, entitled to the same respect as churches of which they are an appendage. I must also state that there is a sentence of excommunication passed by the Church against those who usurp, invade, and occupy church property, or the property of pious places. Brutal force or infidel ideas may make light of such an ecclesiastical penalty, but there is a Power above which sides with the weak and defenseless and will act in due time, slow or obscure its operation may be.

Military necessity must not be a cloak to usurpation, bigotry, or impropriety. There is an abundance of ground to the right and to the left, in front and the rear of that little graveyard, which covers only three or four acres of ground. Fortifications might have been erected there without any desecration of a revered spot. This case involuntarily reminds me of the doomed vineyard of Naboth. The fortifications erected by the preceding Government are yet extant near the spot. The Confederates did not think it necessary to infringe upon the right of churches and cemeteries, although they had to defend the city against overpowering numbers. It is hard to see how such a military necessity should have arisen so suddenly now that there is no opposing force at all, and that the Confederates, far from being able to attack, evacuate everywhere what they had.

I thought I could not do less than send my humble protest in behalf of the Catholic Church, whose right and privileges I deem to be infringed by this proceeding; in behalf of an outraged community obliged now to carry away where they can the moldering remains of their relatives and friends; in behalf of the Irish-Catholic soldiers, who are obliged to perform the work of hyenas, and in behalf of those who will have to stand in the midst of exhalations arising from opened and mutilated graves,

I have the honor of being, very respectfully, yours,

AUGUSTIN VEROT,
Bishop of Savannah.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 23, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Richmond papers received. The following is from the Dispatch:

FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

It is understood in official circles that no fighting has occurred in North Carolina since Sunday, and from all we can learn it appears that Sherman has attempted no advances since his check on that day. General Hardee's victory on the 16th instant was a very important one, and as regards the enemy a most bloody affair. General Johnston telegraphs that in that battle the Confederate loss was 450, while that of the enemy was 3,300. The fight took place at Averasborough, on the Cape Fear River, half way between Raleigh and Fayetteville. General Johnston's defeat of the enemy last Sunday, the 19th instant, occurred at Bentonville, near the Neuse River. By these facts we are informed that Sherman has been pushing toward Raleigh in two columns, one moving due north from Fayetteville, the other northwest from New Berne. General Hardee fought the former, General Johnston the latter.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *March 23, 1865—2.30 p. m.*

Major-General HALLECK, *Washington:*

Have you heard anything from General Cruft's command, which left Nashville on the 14th for New Berne?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Goldsborough, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States, City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: On reaching Goldsborough this morning I found Lieutenant Dunn waiting for me with your letter of March 16 and dispatch of 17th. I wrote you fully from Bentonville [Cox's Bridge] yesterday, and since reaching Goldsborough have learned that my letter was sent punctually down to New Berne, whence it will be dispatched to you. I am very glad to hear that Sheridan did such good service between Richmond and Lynchburg, and hope he will keep the ball moving. I know these raids and dashes disconcert our enemy and discourage him. Slocum's two corps—Fourteenth and Twentieth—are now coming in, and I will dispose them north of Goldsborough, between the Weldon road and Little River. Howard to-day is marching south of the Neuse, and to-morrow will come in and occupy ground north of Goldsborough, and extending from the Weldon railroad to that leading to Kinston. I have ordered all the provisional divisions made up of troops belonging to other corps to be broken up and the men to join their proper regiments and organizations, and have ordered Schofield to guard the railroads back to New Berne and Wilmington, and make up a movable column equal to 25,000 men with which to take the field. He will be my center as in the Atlanta campaign. I don't think I want any more troops other than absentees and recruits to fill up the present regiments, but that I can make up an army of 80,000 men by April 10. I will put Kilpatrick out at Mount Olive Station, on the Wilmington road, and then allow the army some rest. We have sent all our empty wagons under escort, with the proper staff officers, to bring up clothing and provisions. As long as we move we can gather food and forage, but the moment we stop trouble begins. I feel sadly disappointed that our railroads are not done. I don't like to say that there has been any neglect until I make inquiries, but it does seem to me the repairs should have been made and the road properly stocked. I can only hear of one locomotive besides the four old ones on the New Berne road and two damaged locomotives found by Terry on the Wilmington road. I left Easton and Beckwith purposely to make arrangements in anticipation of my arrival, and I have heard from neither, though I suppose them both to be at Morehead City. At all events we have now made a junction of all the armies, and if we can maintain them will in a short time be in position to march against Raleigh, or Gaston, or Weldon, or even Richmond, as you may determine. If I get the troops all well placed, and the supplies working well, I might run up to see you for a day or two before diving again into the bowels of the country. I will make in a very short time accurate reports of our operations for the past two months.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, March 23, 1865.

General EASTON,
Kinston Bridge:

I am sending wagons down for the supplies, and shall put a regiment at work at this end. Look to increasing the transportation by water up Neuse River as near Kinston as possible and we can haul from there. This to be in excess of the capacity of the railroad. All my army is now here and coming in.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Goldsborough, March 23, 1865.

Colonel WRIGHT,
Morehead City:

Report to me the condition of the railroad. Employ at any cost laborers to put both the Wilmington and New Berne branches in order. Hire three gangs at each point, to work each eight hours, calling it a day, so that you may do three days' work in twenty-four hours. My army is now coming in and all will be here to-day and to-morrow. I was much disappointed that this was not already done. Cars must carry into Kinston at once supplies. I will put an engineer regiment at once to work from this end. You can have as many details as you want. Expedition is the thing.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
In the Field, Goldsborough, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Brig. Gen. L. C. EASTON,
Chief Quartermaster, Morehead City:

GENERAL: I have made junction of my armies at Goldsborough a few days later than I appointed, but I find neither railroad completed, nor have I a word or sign from you or General Beckwith of the vast stores of supplies I hoped to meet here or hear of. We have sent wagons to Kinston in hopes to get something there, but at all events I should know what has been done and what is being done. I have constantly held out to the officers and men to bear patiently the want of clothing and other necessaries, for at Goldsborough awaited us everything. If you can expedite the movement of stores from the sea to the army, do so, and don't stand on expenses. There should always be three details of workers, of eight hours each, making twenty-four hours per day of work on every job, whether building a bridge, unloading vessels, loading cars, or what not. Draw everything you need from Savannah, Port Royal, Charleston, &c., for this emergency, and don't let the delay we had at Savannah recur. Remember that we want the stores and nothing else. We don't want a permanent establishment at Morehead City, at New Berne, or here. Our wagons are our storehouses. I must be off again in twenty days, with wagons full, men reclad, &c.

Yours, truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

KINSTON, *March 23, 1865.*

Maj. L. M. DAYTON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Military Division of the Mississippi:

DEAR MAJOR: Colonel Treat, chief commissary of subsistence of General Schofield's army, reports subsistence stores for Military Division of the Mississippi to the amout of 400,000 rations, and more arriving daily, which I will forward as fast as wagons arrive. General Beckwith is at Morehead City.

Very truly, yours,

D. REMICK,
Acting Chief Commissary of Subsistence, Mil. Div. of the Miss.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Falling Creek, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

GENERAL: The Fifteenth Corps is encamped on Falling Creek, three divisions east and one west of it. The Seventeenth Corps is near Cox's Bridge. We shall be in Goldsborough early to-morrow morning. My headquarters are near Falling Creek, about one mile east of the church.

Respectfully,

O. O. HOWARD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Goldsborough, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Yours to General Sherman is to hand, giving the position of your command. To-morrow a dispatch bearer will leave here for the States, by whom you can send letters to America, if you wish. There is now at New Berne, in the hands of Colonel Markland, a large mail for your command, which you had better send your army messenger for.

I am, &c.,

L. M. DAYTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

KINSTON, N. C., *March 23, 1865.*

Major-General HOWARD,
Commanding Army and Department of the Tennessee:

DEAR GENERAL: Colonel Treat, commissary of subsistence, General Schofield's army, reports to me that he will supply the Military Division of the Mississippi with 400,000 rations of subsistence now. That amount is here for General Sherman's army, and more arriving daily. I will load the trains as soon as they arrive. It is 8 a. m. now, and none of our wagons arrived yet. There is also lots of boots, shoes, socks, and other quartermaster's stores here, which Colonel Garber will forward as fast as he can, and our Army of the Tennessee will get their portion, and probably all they want. The railroad will be finished to this point to-day, and they report not much damage done the road from

here to Goldsborough. Colonel Conklin is at New Berne. Any orders you may make I will be happy to receive, as regards stores, &c. Excuse haste.

I have the honor to be, general, very truly, your humble servant,

D. REMICK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Commissary of Subsistence.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 69.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Falling Creek, N. C., March 23, 1865.

I. The command will move to-morrow to Goldsborough. The Fifteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan commanding, will move upon any route or routes, avoiding the river road, and cross the Neuse River east of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. The Seventeenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair commanding, will move by the river road and cross the river west of the railroad. The Army of the Tennessee will take up a strong position beyond Goldsborough, covering the town to the east of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, the Fifteenth Army Corps on the right and the Seventeenth Army Corps on the left, and will immediately intrench their positions. In order to afford ample room, about two-thirds of each corps will be placed in the front line. A staff officer from each corps headquarters, to whom the positions will be appointed, will accompany the general commanding to-morrow.

II. The present foraging system is hereby abolished. Every person not entitled to be mounted will be dismounted and all horses and mules turned over to the corps quartermaster. Foraging on the country from Goldsborough will be done by regiments or brigades, with officers present. These will be regularly detailed by corps or division commanders. The engineer regiment and other detachments may send details, never less than two companies, with their officers, and these will attach themselves, when practicable, to regular detailed foraging regiments or brigades, and the officer in charge will always have written authority. The division commander will always make special provisions for his artillery by attaching its foraging details to a regular party.

By order of Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard:

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL ARMY CORPS,
Cox's Bridge, March 22 [23?], 1865—9.20 p. m.

Maj. Gen. O. O. HOWARD,
Commanding Right Wing:

GENERAL: I sent, an hour since, two of my staff to find your headquarters and inform you that I had received a report that the enemy were crossing the Neuse about two miles above here. I have since learned that the force consists of two regiments of cavalry. A portion of it has got around onto the road leading from Falling Creek Church to Mount Olive and is threatening my pontoon train, which is now coming up. I am just sending off what little cavalry I have to meet it. I have the impression that a portion of the general train, as well as my

own subsistence wagon, is at Everettsville. If such be the case it is possible that these people may get around them and do some mischief. Can you tell me where General Kilpatrick is?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Falling Creek, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. LOGAN,
Commanding Fifteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: General Terry reports that the enemy is crossing the river about two miles above his position, in what force he has not learned. He has sent his cavalry out to ascertain. The general directs that the movement ordered for to-morrow be suspended until you hear from him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Blair.)

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Falling Creek, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that I left my camp this morning about 10 o'clock, moving out in rear of General John E. Smith. I marched two of my brigades in rear, and that portion of my column was also covered by the Seventh Illinois Cavalry,* that reported to me before starting. I was not molested to any extent by the rebel cavalry, none making themselves manifest during the day's march. Reaching my present camp at 4 this p. m., I halted and encamped my division in accordance with directions received. I have sent my ambulance and ordnance trains as well as my battery across Falling Creek, encamping them beyond the stream. My headquarters are on the roadside about a quarter of a mile from the bridge. Inclosed please find list of casualties for the 21st and 22d instant.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
At Hall's (Burned) House, N. C., March 23, 1865—11 a. m.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that this division broke camp at 6.30 this morning, marching to this point, where it is now encamped. My headquarters are at William Hall's house (now burned). Shown on the manuscript maps.

I am, respectfully,

W. B. HAZEN,
Major-General.

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* Mounted infantry.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Falling Creek Church, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Maj. MAX. WOODHULL, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., Fifteenth Army Corps:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the following as the operations of this command during the day: Broke camp near Mill Creek at 7.30 a. m., and following the Fourth Division, marched eleven miles on the Goldsborough road, encamping at 4 p. m. on south side of main road. The First Brigade is in line fronting south, its left connecting with the right of the Fourth Division. The Second Brigade is on the right of the First, in column by regiments. The artillery and trains are in rear of the right of the First Brigade. These headquarters are in rear of the right of First Brigade, on the right of the artillery and about twenty-five yards south of main road.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Neuse River, N. C., March 23, 1865—4.10 p. m.

Capt. A. M. VAN DYKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department and Army of the Tennessee:

CAPTAIN: My command will encamp this afternoon within two miles of the river, and will all be in before dark. My First Division is now in camp. The only water between Falling Creek and this point was on ground occupied by the Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, or I should not have moved so far.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK P. BLAIR, JR.,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
Railroad Bridge, near Kinston, March 23, 1865—5.30 p. m.

Capt. C. CADLE, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., Seventeenth Army Corps:*

I have the honor to report to you that I arrived here with the train at 2 o'clock this p. m. The road I came on is very good, and I will send the train back on the same road loaded with five days' rations for the corps, and one-quarter of clothing at this point, which amounts to 600 hats, 3,000 blouses, 3,000 pants, 600 cavalry pants, 7,500 shirts, 3,000 drawers, 9,300 shoes, 1,800 boots, 4,500 stockings, and a few other articles of no consequence. The above is hardly enough for one division, but Colonel Conklin assures me I can get all the stores I want, consequently I will remain here until I do receive them. The railroad bridge is not finished across the river at this point. Stores will be slow in coming to the front. You will please order all the wagons to be emptied and sent at once to this point. I will see they are loaded with something. I will have all the wagons here loaded before I go to bed to-night, to be ready to start at daylight to-morrow morning. I have just heard that a large mail will be here some time during the night. I will retain wagons and send it as soon as I can.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. M. JOEL,
Lieut. Col. and Chief Quartermaster, Seventeenth Army Corps.

P. S.—I just heard Boucher is a lieutenant-colonel.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 74. } HDQRS. SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Near Neuse River, N. C., March 23, 1865.*

The command will move to-morrow by the upper pontoon bridge to our camp at Goldsborough. Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. A. Smith, commanding Fourth Division, will have the advance and will move forward at 7 a. m. Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, will follow the Fourth Division. Maj. Gen. J. A. Mower, commanding First Division, will follow the Third Division. The Ninth Illinois Mounted Infantry will move across the bridge at 6.30 a. m. and will remain on the other side until the advance comes up, guarding the bridge until relieved. As soon as the corps is across the bridge division commanders will send back teams to the temporary depot below the railroad for such stores as may be there belonging to their commands. They will then withdraw such troops as they may have there and the depot will be broken up.

By command of Maj. Gen. F. P. Blair:

C. CADLE, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 66. } HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Near Goldsborough, N. C., March 23, 1865.*

This command will be prepared to move forward at 8 a. m. to-morrow, following Fourth Division. The Second Brigade, Col. G. F. Wiles commanding, will have the advance. The Fifteenth Ohio Battery, Lieut. L. Bailey commanding, will follow the Second Brigade. The First Brigade, Col. C. Fairchild commanding, will follow the battery. Trains in usual order.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force:

J. C. DOUGLASS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS, *Near Goldsborough, N. C., March 23, 1865.*

This command will march to-morrow to Goldsborough in the following order: Third Division, First Division, Second Division. General Ward will start promptly at 6 a. m., the other commands starting in season to keep closed up to the rear of the preceding command. The artillery will follow the troops of the Third Division. Each division commander will have a sufficient number of troops accompany his trains to protect and assist them, looking well to the left flank, the enemy's cavalry having shown themselves there. General Ward will make all necessary repairs to the roads. Division inspectors or other staff officers will report to Lieutenant-Colonel Asmussen, assistant inspector-general, at these headquarters at 5.30 a. m.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. S. Williams:

CHAS. MOYER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS, *Near Goldsborough, N. C., March 23, 1865.*

By orders of Major-General Slocum, commanding Left Wing, all pack animals and wagons of this corps must pass through Goldsborough

before daylight to-morrow morning. In order to do this all pack-mules and wagons will leave this camp at 2 a. m. to-morrow morning, in the same order as designated for the troops, and pass as soon as practicable through the town of Goldsborough. Lieutenant-Colonel Asmussen, assistant inspector-general, will designate the position of the pack-mules and wagons after passing through the town. Each division commander will designate an officer to take charge of his pack-mules and wagons, who will report with his train to Lieutenant-Colonel Asmussen in Goldsborough, at General Slocum's headquarters. The troops will march at 5 a. m., as designated in the order of this afternoon. The corps will march through Goldsborough in review.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

This order is intended to include also all cattle herds and all mounted infantrymen that are not absent from their commands foraging.

By command of Brevet Major-General Williams:

H. W. PERKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
Falling Creek, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. KILPATRICK, *Commanding Cavalry Corps:*

GENERAL: General Howard directs me to inform you that General Terry reports a force of the enemy's cavalry as crossing to this side of the river, about two miles above his headquarters (Cox's Bridge), and seem to be making their way toward the railroad, threatening the trains at the temporary depot. He sends the information in order that you may guard against the possible danger to the train.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. VAN DYKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Goldsborough, March 23, 1865.

Lieut. Col. R. B. TREAT, *Kinston, N. C.:*

The commanding general directs that you come forward to this place without delay. Colonel Barriger has been directed to attend to matters at Kinston.

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Goldsborough, March 23, 1865.

Lieut. Col. J. W. BARRIGER,
Chief Commissary of Subsistence, New Berne, N. C.:

The commanding general directs that if General Beckwith has not made arrangements for the issuing and forwarding of supplies from Kinston you will attend to it without delay, as Colonel Treat has been ordered to the front. General Sherman is here.

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 8. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO, *In the Field, Goldsborough, N. C., March 23, 1865.*

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II. All the officers and men belonging to the Provisional Division, Army of the Tennessee, commanded by Brig. Gen. G. S. Greene, and now moving with the army, will at once return to their respective commands. All the field transportation now used by the Provisional Division will be left in charge of the acting chief commissary of the division, to be disposed of under the direction of Lieut. Col. J. F. Boyd, acting chief quartermaster, army in the field.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 38. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO, *New Berne, N. C., March 23, 1865.*

I. The Fifteenth Indiana Battery, Capt. A. D. Harvey, and Twenty-third Indiana Battery, Capt. J. H. Myers, now at Wilmington, N. C., will proceed by water without delay to New Berne, N. C., and report to Bvt. Brig. Gen. G. W. Schofield, chief of artillery. The quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

By command of Major-General Schofield:

G. W. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE OHIO,
In the Field, Goldsborough, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. N. COUCH,
Comdg. Second and Third Divisions, Twenty-third Army Corps:

GENERAL: There is a railroad bridge across a creek about two and a half or three miles east of this place, which the commanding general desires you to place a guard over to prevent it being burned or injured. Please send the guard at once.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 3. } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT, *New Berne, N. C., March 23, 1865.*

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V. Col. Charles H. Stewart, Third New York Artillery, commanding defenses of New Berne, will direct the commanding officer U. S. gun-boat Shrapnel to constantly patrol the Neuse River with his gun-boat for the purpose of protecting Government vessels engaged in conveying

supplies to Kinston for the army of General Sherman. Colonel Stewart will see that the boat is well armed and equipped and kept fully stocked with coal.

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By command of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WILMINGTON,
Wilmington, N. C., March 23, 1865.

Major-General GILLMORE,
Commanding Department of the South:

SIR: When Major-General Sherman's army reached Fayetteville it had a column of 8,000 or 10,000 refugees clinging to its skirts. General Sherman could carry them no longer and they were all sent down here. His written orders to Brevet Brigadier-General Dodge, chief quartermaster Department of North Carolina, directed that the surplus blacks be sent to the Department of the South, where the arrangements so long and successfully conducted by General Saxton would permit the care and protection that we are utterly unable to afford here. Our planting season is passing and we have not the implements, nor the seeds, nor the superintendents, nor are the lands even yet examined. Could we distribute the colored people, we have not had until now the wagons to carry their rations a mile away from our wharves. Therefore, I send herewith by the Beaufort, which goes to your department after troops, 300 blacks from the column of 6,000 which reached here day before yesterday. They are pressing upon us severely, exhausting our resources and threatening pestilence.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. R. HAWLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding District.

P. S.—We have no very late news here. Joe Johnston attacked General Sherman's Left Wing at Bentonville, between Fayetteville and Goldsborough, four days ago and was repulsed. General Schofield was at Kinston, and General Terry on the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, a short distance from the Neuse, at last advices. Latest from the North March 16.

J. R. H.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
Hilton Head, S. C., March 23, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER U. S. TROOPS,
On board Steamer General Sedgwick:

SIR: You will proceed with the troops of Major-General Sherman's army now under your command to Morehead City, N. C., and report in person to the commanding officer at that place for orders or advice before disembarking your troops. The object is to get your troops to General Sherman's army with as little delay as possible.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

W. L. M. BURGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to commanding officer U. S. troops on board steamer Weyboset.)

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, March 23, 1865.

Major General DIX, *New York:*

Please inform General Robert Anderson that an order from this Department will be issued this week for him to raise the U. S. flag on Fort Sumter on the 14th of April, the anniversary of the evacuation of that fort by the U. S. forces under his command. Suitable military ceremonies for the occasion will also be ordered, and an address delivered by the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, and perhaps other gentlemen. Arrangements will be made to send General Anderson to Charleston, in company with others who may desire to participate. If General Anderson can come to Washington without jeopardy to his health I would be glad to see him.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CONFEDERATE CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

HEADQUARTERS LEWIS' BRIGADE,
Sister's Ferry, January 1, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON, *Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

SIR: In obedience to an order from corps headquarters "to move at once with his (my) command across Savannah River and report, by order, to General Iverson," I came here day before yesterday. I find it impossible to cross without the aid of a steamer on account of the flood of the river. This fact I informed you of in a dispatch sent upon my arrival here, and again on yesterday, and also that the steamer, which you informed me in a communication accompanying the order would be sent here to assist in crossing my command, had not arrived. I have received no answer to either dispatch, nor has the steamer yet arrived. Having neither rations nor forage near this point, and as you regard the order to cross as "has some urgency in it," I move this morning up the river till I do find a practicable crossing. In the absence of any order from you, and despairing of the arrival of the steamer, I do not know what other course to pursue.

Respectfully,

J. H. LEWIS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HARDEEVILLE, *January 1, 1865.*

Major-General MCLAWS:

Brigadier-General Anderson reports that a reliable scout reports the enemy at least 1,000 strong on Hutchinson's Island, with artillery and horsemen. Also reports them unloading plank on Pennyworth's Island, and a pile of plank some five or six feet high on island. The transports reported leaving Savannah yesterday were going down the river.

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

The above sent to General Hardee, and also three transports full of troops went down the Savannah River yesterday, December 31, 1864.

L. MCLAWS.

CHARLESTON, *January 2, 1865.*
(Received 12 o'clock.)

General COOPER:

The men of Wheeler's cavalry corps have not been paid, many of them for more than twelve months. I request that you will authorize Mr. Sneed, C. S. depositary, now in Charleston, to turn over $3,000,000 for this purpose.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 2, 1865.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

A telegram from the President of the 30th of December* to General Beauregard directs him to proceed to the district west of Augusta and to leave me in command of the district east of Augusta, but is not definite as to whether Augusta will be in his district or mine. I have no desire to enlarge my department, but the connection between Augusta, Branchville, and Charleston is, in a military point of view, so intimate that I consider it necessary that they should be in the same department.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

[Indorsement.]

JANUARY 3, 1865.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Change line to west of Augusta and Millen by line embracing approaches, &c.

J. D.

[JANUARY 2, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1067.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 1.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
Charleston, S. C., January 2, 1865.

I. The following will be the organization of the Cavalry Corps commanded by Maj. Gen. J. Wheeler: Iverson's division, consisting of Lewis' and Ferguson's brigades; Humes' division, composed of Dibrell's, Ashby's, and Harrison's brigades; Allen's division, composed of Anderson's, Crews', and Hagan's brigades.

II. Lewis' and Breckinridge's brigades, of Wheeler's corps, will be consolidated. Hannon's cavalry brigade will be broken up, and the Fifty-third Alabama Regiment and Twenty-fourth Alabama Battalion, of that brigade, are assigned to Hagan's brigade, and the Thirtieth Georgia Regiment [Battalion] to Anderson's brigade.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

H. W. FEILDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Vol. XLIV, p. 1010.

CHARLESTON, *January 2, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

If you are forced to evacuate your line at Pocotaligo you will fall back to the line of the Combahee River, paying especial attention to the guarding of all works and ferries. The order for Chesnut to go to Adams' Run should have been issued through you; it was authorized.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 2, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Send General Chesnut's command to the Fourth Sub-District, Adams' Run. Wheeler has been ordered to relieve Young at Grahamville, and send him to Coosawhatchie. When he arrives order the First South Carolina Militia to report to Brigadier-General Taliaferro.

By order of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ON THE PURYSBURG ROAD, AT INTERSECTION WITH HARDEEVILLE ROAD,
January 2, 1865—11 a. m.

Brigadier-General HUMES,
Commanding, Hardeeville:

GENERAL: Colonel Pointer reports to me that the enemy have halted at Hardee's house, which is about one mile nearer than Cheves' house, and about two miles and half from this point. They are now past the worst of the obstructions in the Hardeeville road. They have probably halted until they have built the bridge over Cheves' canal, near the signal tower, and cleared the road so as to bring up their artillery.

Very respectfully,

R. H. ANDERSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HARDEEVILLE, *January 2, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Scouts report the enemy encamped in heavy force at the signal tower, on the road from Screven's Ferry to Hardeeville, three miles from Screven's Ferry, and that they are still crossing the river and coming to that point.

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HARDEEVILLE, *January 2, 1865—12 m.*

Maj. Gen. L. McLAWS:

The enemy are advancing on the road from Cheves' house to Monkey Johns'. They have driven in Brigadier-General Anderson's scouting parties and are now within three-quarters of a mile of his position and still advancing.

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

HARDEEVILLE, *January 2, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

At the rate the enemy are now driving General Anderson they will reach the point where the railroad crosses the Purysburg and Screven's Ferry road by 1 or 2 p. m.

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

POCOTALIGO, *January 2, 1865.*

Brigadier-General HUMES:

I earnestly hope you will seriously impede the progress of the enemy. Resist his advance at every point, and make your dispositions to defend the crossings of New River and Great Swamp at all hazards. Give me as soon as possible some information concerning the numbers of the enemy. Concentrate your forces, and make a determined resistance.

L. McLAWS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS IVERSON'S DIVISION,
January 2, 1865—9 a. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: Scouts report the enemy having advanced their pickets twelve miles from Savannah. Captain Moncrief charged their pickets day before yesterday, but failed to force them back. It is reported that the enemy do not now allow any one to pass in or out of Savannah. No report from Colonel Hawkins or Harris. A special report from scout states that the enemy are no farther north or west than Midway Church. They have been, I think, returned toward Savannah.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED IVERSON,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. GEORGIA RESERVES AND MIL. DIST. OF GEORGIA,
Macon, Ga., January 2, 1865.

Col. JOHN B. CUMMING,
Commanding Georgia Reserves, Hardeeville, S. C.:

COLONEL: I am instructed by the commanding major-general to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d ultimo, and to say in reply he deeply regrets to hear of the conduct of a portion of your command, manifesting a mutinous spirit, alike unpatriotic and illegal. He can have no sympathy for or with men who are not willing at this trying crisis to serve their country wherever their service is required. The plea that they are required to serve beyond the territory of their State would be unworthy of Yankees, but is disreputable and disgraceful on the part of men who profess to be Southern men, fighting for their liberty. The man who will desert the flag of the Confederacy in the face of the enemy on the pitiful plea that he is serving upon the soil of another and not his own State, is but little, if any, better than the traitor who barters away the liberties of his country for his own

security, or to gratify his mean and selfish ambition. Such deserters deserve, and I trust will receive, the extreme penalty of the law. The general has been gratified to hear of the gallant conduct of your officers and men, and feels assured that under your lead they will never bring dishonor upon their flag. He relies upon your known courage and fidelity to maintain the integrity and discipline of your command. Whenever the public service will justify it he will, in justice to the true men of your command who stand by you and your faithful officers, use every effort to have them returned to their own State.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, yours, &c.,

LAMAR COBB,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Memorandum.]

The governor of South Carolina (General Bonham) had ordered his South Carolina State troops back from Georgia, where they had been sent to assist in the defense of Savannah. General Hardee had complied with the order, so that the Georgia State troops, of which Col. Cumming's command formed a part, thought it but just that they should not be sent across the Savannah River to assist in the defense of South Carolina soil. General Cobb, to whom they appealed, has given his views on that question.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,
Tallahassee, January 2, 1865.

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond:

GENERAL: The possession of Savannah by the enemy separates our line of railroad in Florida from the other lines of the Confederacy. Besides the necessity of getting the supplies of sugar, molasses, pork, and beef out of the State, it may be desired hereafter to remove the iron now on these railroads for use in the central parts of the Confederacy. Of this iron there is over 25,000 tons in the State, besides about 18,000 tons on the Live Oak connection and the Savannah and Gulf road, west of the Altamaha River. The shortest and most obvious route for this is by Quincy to the Chattahoochee River, at Appalaga. This would require the construction of a road twenty-two miles in length, over good ground, with easy grade. This was the contemplated continuation of the road from Quincy, and has been surveyed and the levels run. There are nine miles of iron on the Jacksonville road taken up and now at Lake City, and eight miles of iron on the Florida Railroad, extending from Baldwin toward Fernandina. This would leave but five miles to be provided. This could be taken from the road extending from Tallahassee to Saint Mark's, or from the terminus of the Florida Railroad at Cedar Keys.

I forward these facts for the consideration of the War Department. If the objects should be considered sufficient to warrant the labor and expenditure, I will, as commander of the district, use my best energies to forward the work.

Mr. Howard, the Government attorney, is using all his energies to obtain a decision in the case of the Florida Railroad Company, which will probably terminate favorably to the Government.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MILLER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Abstract from return of the C. S. Forces in South Carolina, January 2, 1865.

Command.	Effective total.	Total present.	Aggregate.
Jones' division (Taliaferro):			
Rhett's brigade	1,555		
Elliott's brigade	2,459		
Total infantry	4,014		
Light artillery	134		
Cavalry	457		
Total	4,605		
Wright's division:			
Infantry	1,243	1,336	1,437
Light artillery	714	764	800
Cavalry	72	77	80
Total	2,029	2,177	2,317
Trapier's brigade:			
Infantry	130	148	156
Light artillery	85	97	99
Cavalry	34	41	45
Total	249	286	300
Wheeler's Cavalry Division	4,919	6,356	6,944
McLaws' division:			
Fiser's brigade	817	875	941
Chesnut's brigade	1,233		
Harrison's brigade	2,169	2,612	2,820
Cumming's brigade	468	505	540
Hardy's brigade	855	947	991
Total infantry	5,542	4,939	5,292
Light artillery	976		
Cavalry	512		
Total	7,030	4,939	5,292
Grand total	18,832	13,758	14,853

[JANUARY 3, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1067.]

CHARLESTON, *January 3, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

General Hardee wishes you to send a staff officer to meet Lieutenant-Colonel Woodruff [Woodford], of General Foster's staff, at Port Royal Ferry to-morrow at 2 p. m. January 4, to receive such communications as he may have. General Hardee wishes General Foster informed that his communication was received too late to send one of his own staff. Please acknowledge receipt of this dispatch.

W. D. PICKETT,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HARDEEVILLE, *January 3, 1865—1 p. m.*

Major-General McLAWS:

My information is the enemy came only a short distance this side of Cheves' house yesterday. We are blockading the roads thoroughly to-day.

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

[JANUARY 3, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws (three dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1115.]

GRAHAMVILLE, *January 3, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Reliable scouts report at least two divisions of enemy's infantry on this side the river and steam-boats were constantly crossing from Savannah to Screven's Ferry on yesterday. Scouts also report a pontoon laid from Pennyworth's Island to South Carolina bank at Cheves' place. A scout, who was an overseer and thoroughly acquainted on all the rice plantations, went through the swamps to within half a mile of Cheves' place; saw a close column of infantry half a mile long pass from the landing up Cheves' causeway toward Screven's Ferry road; also a small force of infantry appeared at Izard's place.

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

RICHMOND, *January 4, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

The President, in response to your telegram of 2d instant, directs that the line of your department limits be changed west of Augusta and Millen, embracing approaches. Please indicate the exact line you desire that a corresponding order may be issued from this office.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 2. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, January 4, 1865.*

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IV. Lieut. Col. T. J. Berry, of the Invalid Corps, is assigned to duty with the Reserves of Georgia, and will report to Maj. Gen. Howell Cobb, commanding.

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XXXIV. Paragraph XXXIII, Special Orders, No. 310, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, December 31, 1864, is hereby revoked, and Maj. H. D. Bulkley; commissary of subsistence, is assigned to duty as chief commissary of the troops commanded by Lieut. Gen. W. J. Hardee, Provisional Army, C. S., and will report accordingly.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 4, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Get all of Chesnut's command from Grahamville as soon as possible.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

CHARLESTON, *January 4, 1865.*

General McLAWS:

General Hardee desires you to remove as soon as possible from Old Pocotaligo, and send to Major Huger the 24-pounder howitzer and the two Blakely guns now there, also the two Wiard rifled guns at Pocotaligo Depot. General Hardee wishes a light-artillery section at Old Pocotaligo instead of the above-mentioned guns.

A. J. GONZALES,
Colonel and Chief of Artillery Department.

CHARLESTON, *January 4, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Major-General Wright, commanding Fourth Sub-District South Carolina, will have charge of the Combahee River from its mouth to the turnpike bridge over the Salkehatchie, not including that bridge.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Frampton Place, January 4, 1865—7 p. m.

[General McLAWS:]

GENERAL: The enemy made a sally on my advanced pickets on the Mackay Point road about 4 p. m. to-day, driving them in on the main picket-line. I went forward with a company about 5 p. m.; found the enemy had withdrawn to their original line (nobody hurt). Scouts report to have seen one regiment about half a mile beyond the Hudson house. Should the enemy advance by way of Mackay Point road I don't think it prudent to make the fight at the Hudson place, as my force is not sufficient to protect the extent of country between the Pocotaligo River and the main Coosawhatchie road. Should I make a fight at the Hudson house I will not be able to support Major Hartridge or protect Colonel Harrison's left. Can't you send somebody at once to take charge of the Mackay Point road? and I will attend to Colonel H.'s flank and the approaches to the railroad from Tullifinny.

I am, general, your friend and obedient servant,

JNO. C. FISER,
Colonel, Commanding, &c.

P. S.—I understand that Colonel Anderson was making inquiry in regard to First Georgia Regulars and Twenty-seventh Battalion, and said they had been ordered to Charleston. Can't you checkmate him?

NEAR HARDEEVILLE, S. C., *January 4, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Headquarters Armies of the Confederate States:

GENERAL: I wrote you a few days since,* but as the letter may not reach you I take the opportunity to write again. I suppose you must have been mortified to hear the various complaints of horse-stealing

* See Vol. XLIV, p. 998.

attributed to my command. If all was true it would be very bad, but I am happy to say, after giving the matter as full investigation as the circumstances would permit, I have positive proof that most of the stealing referred to was committed by troops who did not and never did belong to my command, and with whom I never had anything whatever to do. The case of Captain Conway proved to be most flagrant. After arresting him, and upon investigating the matter, I found he did not belong to my command, but was acting under the orders of Maj. Norman W. Smith, chief inspector of transportation, Second District. There are a great number of other cases where men have falsely stated that they belonged to my command. During the past year I have worked very hard, and am happy to state have so far succeeded that no one can sustain the charge of neglect or any other charge against me. I regret to say that one of my commanding officers appears to censure, without showing a willingness to hear or entertain explanations which entirely alter the nature of the allegation. To-day my force is larger than when the campaign commenced last spring, although I have had about 3,000 men killed and wounded, and now have eight regiments detached. I regretted to hear that General Hardee had asked to have General Young promoted to major-general, to take command of Allen's division. General Allen has served with most distinguished gallantry and ability during the entire campaign, winning by his gallantry the confidence of his officers and men. I feel that it would be a mark of great injustice to him and to the command for General Young to be placed over him, particularly as General Allen has kept his command better together than General Young, and has done as good, and I believe better, fighting.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant and friend,

J. WHEELER.

P. S.—I did not mention above that most of the general officers have been assigned to this command, instead of promoting colonels. This was advisable at one time, but now the necessity no longer exists—at least to the extent of going to the Virginia army to get material for major-generals for our commands. General Robertson is to-day as good a division commander as can be found in any of our armies. If our cavalry has not been as well kept together as it should have been, it has been caused in a great measure by reasons beyond the control of myself or my division commanders. I have reorganized my command, breaking up two brigades and increasing the others. I think Sherman will commence his march soon, either in direction of Augusta or Charleston, or he may first march to Branchville.

J. W.

CHARLESTON, *January 4, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER,
Hardeeville, via Grahamville:

Inform me where the advance of the enemy now is, his probable force, and intentions.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

[JANUARY 4, 1865.—For Wheeler to Hardee, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1115.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Grahamville, S. C., January 4, 1865—6.30 p. m.

Lieutenant CHAPMAN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

Your dispatch of this date was received ordering me to report every six hours, but did not state where to report to. I have established a courier-line across to the Robertsville and Purysburg road, ten miles from this, to connect with the line upon that road. I have relieved General Young's command, and they leave to-night. Have been out upon the picket-lines to-day. Everything very quiet. I have 200 men at Honey Hill and in front of that; 200 at Bee Creek, and 50 at Dawson's Bluff; 15 on road to Hardeeville, four miles below this; 30 of Colonel Colcock's men on the road to New River bridge. I have no instructions whatever, only to relieve General Young, which I have done. If you fall back upon the Robertsville road, and the enemy advance this way, they will come up in my rear, as Honey Hill is four miles from the depot, Bee Creek is seven, and Dawson's Bluff nine, all fronting toward Broad River. I will in that event have to go in direction of Coosawhatchie or Gillisonville. I would be obliged if you would order a small party to retire up the Grahamville road to give my pickets notice in time to get my pickets in, as they are in good places to be cut off. It is also probable that the enemy may rebuild New River bridge and send a column up the old Charleston and Savannah road, which would place us between them.

I have ordered Colonel Colcock to send details to drive out all the stock as directed. I am very anxious to be advised as to whether any one will retire up the Grahamville road or not, and to what point, &c.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS IVERSON'S DIVISION,
Near Hudson's Ferry, January 4, 1865.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: Day before yesterday the enemy were foraging with wagons, about a regiment strong, in neighborhood of McLeod's. No report to-day.

Respectfully, lieutenant, your obedient servant,

ALFRED IVERSON,
Brigadier-General.

[JANUARY 5, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1067.]

CHARLESTON, *January 5, 1865.*

General S. COOPER:

In reply to your telegram of 4th I recommend that the boundary line of this department run from Augusta, along the Georgia Railroad, to Warrenton; thence, via Sparta and Milledgeville, following the line of

railroad to the Ocmulgee (but not including Macon), down that river to Coffee County, following the west boundary of Coffee County to the Altamaha, and down that river to the Gulf.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 5, 1865.*

Major-General MCLAWS:

The Combahee from its mouth to the turnpike bridge was placed in charge of General Wright, in order that having a shorter line you might concentrate your forces, and if the enemy moved upon Augusta that you might reach Augusta ahead of them.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 5, 1865.*

Major-General MCLAWS:

General Hardee directs that you recall the section of J. T. Kanapaux's battery sent to New Bridge. If necessary to send artillery there substitute from your own battalion of artillery.

H. W. FEILDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 5, 1865.*

General MCLAWS:

Send Kirk's squadron to report to General Jones at Charleston. General Young has been directed to turn over some cavalry to you.

By order of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COOSAWHATCHIE, *January 5, 1865.*

General MCLAWS:

The enemy are shelling to the right and left of my line, but more heavily than usual on my left. We are replying slowly on the right.

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

COOSAWHATCHIE, *January 5, 1865.*

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Enemy has been beating drums in their camp all day, and much more chopping than usual is heard about their picket-lines. They have shelled us more than usual to-day. With the general's consent I will open on them with ten or twelve guns to-morrow morning.

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

GRAHAMVILLE, *January 5, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

The telegraph wire is taken down to this point and will be transported to Green Pond to-night. The [*sic*] will remain until further orders. The enemy [moved] up to the crossing of the railroad and the Purysburg road yesterday, but again fell back to the road leading down to Izard's place. A few of the cavalry appeared near Jonesville.

JOS. MANIGAULT,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Signal Officer.

CHARLESTON, *January 5, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

Send no more troops across the Savannah at present, but provide such facilities for crossing as may be practicable, that, if it should be necessary, they can be crossed promptly.

By order of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

H. W. FEILDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[JANUARY 5, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws (two dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1116.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Grahamville, S. C., January 5, 1865—10 a. m.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

Everything is quiet on our lines this morning. General McLaws has ordered Colonel Colcock to Pocotaligo, General Young to Charleston, leaving only my division to keep up the lines mentioned yesterday. The railroad train is engaged in removing its iron from the road some three or four miles from Hardeeville. I have to send scouts in front of the train to prevent its being captured. A picket could be easily kept in front of the train, from one of the divisions near Hardeeville, to notify it of any movement of the enemy, without causing me to scout fifteen miles from here.

I had to send a picket sixteen miles this morning in direction of New River bridge to relieve the last of Colcock's pickets. I ordered Colonel Colcock to drive out all the stock, &c., and he has left a detail for that purpose.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Grahamville, S. C., January 5, 1865—1.30 p. m.

Lieut. HENRY CHAPMAN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

Brigadier-General Young and his command left last night; Colonel Colcock with his men this morning. I sent a small detail to assist in

taking up railroad iron and a scout to protect the train whilst below. I will advise the major-general when the road is torn up to the Great Swamp bridge, which will be several days yet, from the progress previously made. Everything quiet on our front.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 5, 1865.*

Governor A. G. MAGRATH,
Columbia, S. C.:

Your request in regard to Conner's brigade complied with. They are all now en route.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

[JANUARY 6, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1067.]

RICHMOND, VA., *January 6, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL:
(Care Lieut. Gen. W. J. Hardee, Charleston, S. C.)

On the 23d ultimo you were telegraphed to report to General Beauregard for assignment to duty. As he has gone West you will report to Lieutenant-General Hardee.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

CHARLESTON, *January 6, 1865.*
(Received 7th.)

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

In obedience to an order from General Beauregard Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill had gone to the Army of Tennessee to report for duty before receipt of the order assigning him to duty near Charleston.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 4. } *Richmond, January 6, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

XLVI. The Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida will hereafter include, besides the States of South Carolina and Florida, that portion of Georgia embraced in the following lines: Commencing at Augusta and running along the Georgia Railroad to Warrenton; thence, via Sparta and Milledgeville, following the line of the railroad, to the Ocmulgee River, but not including Macon; down the Ocmulgee to Coffee County, following the western boundary of that county to the Allapaha River, and down that river and the Suwanee to the Gulf.

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LI. The leave of absence heretofore granted Brig. Gen. R. S. Ripley, Provisional Army, C. S., is extended ninety days.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*Batteries of light artillery in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, January 6, 1865.**

Batteries.	Captains.	Armament.					
		Napoleons.	12-pounder howitzers.	6-pounder bronze.	10-pounder Parrotts.	3-inch rifles.	3½-in. Blakely.
Anderson's	R. W. Anderson	4					
Barnwell's	A. S. Barnwell	4					
Beaufort Light Artillery	H. M. Stuart	2	2				
Chatham Light Artillery	John F. Wheaton	4					
Chesnut Light Artillery	F. C. Schulz		4				
Daniell's	Charles Daniell	4					
De Pass'	W. L. De Pass	2			2		
Furman Light Artillery	William E. Earle	1	2		1		
German Artillery, Company A	F. W. Wagener	2	2				
German Artillery	W. K. Bachman	4					
Guerard's	John M. Guerard	2	2				
Inglis Light Artillery	William E. Charles			4			
Kilcrease Light Artillery	F. L. Villepigue		2	2			
Lafayette Light Artillery	J. T. Kanapaux		4				
Leon Light Artillery	Robert H. Gamble		2			2	
Louisiana Guard Artillery	Camille E. Girardey	4					2
Marion Light Artillery	Edward L. Parker	4					
Milton Light Artillery, Company A	Joseph L. Dunham	4					
Milton Light Artillery, Company B	Henry F. Abell	2	2				
Orleans Guard Artillery	G. Le Gardeur, jr.	2	2				
Regular (Georgia) Battery	J. A. Maxwell	4					
Santee Light Artillery	Christopher Gaillard			2		2	
Terrell Light Artillery	John W. Brooks	4					
Waccamaw Light Artillery	Mayham Ward		2	2			
Wagner Light Artillery	Charles E. Kanapaux	2	2				
Washington Light Artillery	George H. Walter	2			2		
Colcock's section†	Richard Johnson (Lieut.)	2					
Total guns		59	28	10	5	4	2

* From report of this date, signed by Col. A. J. Gonzales, chief of artillery. Note on original says that "Blake's and Hanleiter's batteries have been broken up by order of the lieutenant-general commanding; the siege train in Georgia and South Carolina has been gradually reduced to a section of 20-pounder Parrotts. It is now abolished and turned into infantry. Tiller's company of light artillery [Echols artillery] has likewise been turned into infantry."

†An improvised organization; guns manned by details from Colonel Colcock's command.

Abstract from field return of the division commanded by Maj. Gen. Lafayette McLaws, including the troops between Grahamville and Combahee River, for January 6, 1865.

Command.	Effective total present.	Total present.	Aggregate present.
Colonel Hardy's brigade	886	995	1,049
Colonel Harrison's brigade	2,685		2,879
Colonel Fiser's brigade	643	702	768
Col. C. J. Colcock's cavalry command	374	396	410
Four light batteries artillery	352	367	382
Grand total	4,940	2,460	5,488

COOSAWHATCHIE, *January 6, 1865.*

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Brigadier-General Hatch has just sent a communication to this flag-of-truce station that two assistant surgeons of the Confederate Army and one of the Confederate Navy desire to cross into our lines, and stating that if they will be received he will send them over as soon as he receives a reply. I have asked that their names be furnished me, and stated in my communication that as soon as their names are received he will be informed whether or not they will be received.

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

COOSAWHATCHIE, *January 6, 1865—4 p. m.*

Major-General MCLAWS:

I delayed receiving the medical officers four hours to hear from you. Feeling that I could do so no longer with propriety, I received them. A few moments afterward your telegram was received. I regret it very much, but in the absence of instructions did what I conceived to be best. I was very careful to prevent the enemy's learning anything, and think he got no information except the whereabouts of my picket-line, which I have ordered advanced.

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

CHARLESTON, *January 6, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

I have asked Governor Magrath to place 1,500 men at Barnwell, to aid you in case the enemy should move, as I believe he will, in that direction. In the event of a cavalry raid withdraw a portion of your force from the right bank of the Savannah River. You must fight the enemy whenever an opportunity offers.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 6, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER,
Hardeeville via Grahamville:

Lieutenant-General Hardee revokes his order of to-day for you to withdraw a portion of your forces from the Georgia to the South Carolina side of the Savannah, in case of a raid. He did not at the time remember your effective force.

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[JANUARY 6, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws (four dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, pp. 1116, 1117.]

GRAHAMVILLE, *January 6, 1865.*

Major-General MCLAWS:

No signs of the enemy advancing. My pickets were ordered to advance at daylight and dispute their march, but have not reported. Have sent others out. Think it probable a reconnaissance in force, and they have probably stopped to-day to rebuild the river bridge. General Humes has arrived with his division.

G. G. DIBRELL,
Commanding, &c.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Grahamville, January 6, 1865—1 a. m.

Lieutenant CHAPMAN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

The enemy in considerable force crossed New River bridge last evening about 4 o'clock, and at dark were at the head of Fording Island road, within sixteen miles of this, and drove my pickets back. I was just ordered by General McLaws to re-enforce the picket there with artillery, but it is too late. My pickets report having seen but little cavalry, and that they moved on rapidly after crossing. The courier says they had not stopped when he left at dark; and they may move right on here, or may go up the Savannah and Charleston road to Coosawhatchie. I will meet them with 100 men, all I can spare, at Glover's, four miles from here on the road to the bridge. Please notify General Humes.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Grahamville, January 6, 1865—10 a. m.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have nothing further to report from the enemy this morning. I have sent Colonel McLemore, with about 100 men and one piece of artillery, to Glover's, on the road from Grahamville to New River bridge, where there is some fortifications this side of a rice plantation. Colonel McLemore thinks it can be flanked, with so small a force to defend it. General McLaws requested last night that I should ask General Wheeler for artillery, stating that what was here had been ordered across the Salkehatchie. As it was so far to yours, I did not ask for it. No order has been received for this yet, and I am getting ready to use it. I have everything saddled up and ready to move as circumstances may occasion, and will send my wagons to Gillisonville when we do move. The enemy made no stop at New River bridge; scouts say they did not see more than fifty cavalry.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Grahamville, S. C., January 6, 1865—4 p. m.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

Our pickets last evening (or a scout from them) reported to have met the enemy three miles this side of New River bridge, and fell back in front of the enemy to Hennessy's Cross-Roads, six miles this side of the bridge, where they last saw the enemy at 6 o'clock. Our picket after dark retired three miles farther to the junction of the road from this place with the Savannah and Charleston road, and remained all night. At daylight they advanced again and have not reported since. The officer in charge, Lieutenant Tinsley, of Shaw's battalion, is a good officer, and I can't account for his not sending a courier. Colonel McLemore sent a courier to him, who went to where he had remained last night, but no farther. I have since sent another scout, with orders to go until they find the enemy, and to report what they are doing. We have a line of pickets on the Charleston and Savannah road, from where they are up to Dawson's Bluff.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Grahamville, S. C., January 6, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

We have pickets at the following places, viz: Dawson's Bluff, which is two miles below Coosawhatchie Station, and the troops at Coosawhatchie join my left there, fifty of the Georgia Reserves being there, and one piece of artillery (the gunners, however, have abandoned it); Bee's Creek and Landing (lower road); spring house; Huger's woods; Euhaw breast-works; Tripp's gate; Boyd's Landing road (enemy are at Boyd's house); White Hall; Bolon's Church; brick-yard and Hazzard's Creek; Savannah Hill; Gennesis Landing road; head of Fording Island road; Hardeeville road; making fifty-eight men as advance pickets besides reserve.

The line upon the old Savannah and Charleston road extends upon and near that road from Dawson's Bluff two miles this side of Coosawhatchie, to within six miles of New River bridge. The enemy's gunboats are in front of Bee Creek Landing, and are also at Boyd's Neck, with a small force on land. At Dawson's Bluff the enemy have a battery across the river that dismounted one of our guns the day we came here. There are two guns of artillery at Bee's Creek, one at Honey Hill (near here), and one at Glover's place, four miles below. The Thirteenth Tennessee is at Honey Hill, Fourth at Glover's, Kentucky Brigade at Bee's Creek, fifty of the Fourth at Dawson's Bluff, and Shaw's battalion here. I would like to show Major-General Wheeler the lines to-morrow if he desires to see them.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

I have no pickets at Wilkins', Seabrook's or Bolon's house, nor upon the Okota River. I do not know where Rover Creek is. I located my pickets where General Young's were, after consulting with him and Colonel Colcock.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Grahamville, January 6, 1865—5 p. m.

Lieut. Col. D. C. JENKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

My scouts have just reported that the enemy retired last night to New River bridge. They found their pickets this morning about half a mile this side of the bridge. They say that no wagons or artillery had been along the road, and they could see none; thought a few ambulances had come out; say but few cavalry along, as but little sign of horses was found. The picket is at the head of the Fording Island road to-night, sixteen miles from here.

Very respectfully

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS IVERSON'S DIVISION,
January 6, 1865.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that up to this time I have received no additional intelligence from my picket-lines to what I sent you at 10.15 last night. Reliable scouts have been sent to locate the enemy, determine his strength, &c. I would suggest that if my courier-line is pressed away from Sister's Ferry and I am compelled to fall back, that you send foot scouts across the river, as I shall find it difficult to communicate rapidly with you. No report from west of Ogeechee to-day.

Very respectfully, lieutenant, your obedient servant,

ALFRED IVERSON,
Brigadier-General.

PICKET-POST ON THE RIVER ROAD,
Ebenezer Creek, January 6, 1865—8 a. m.

COLONEL: The scout of Pine Bluff reports that the enemy moved back late yesterday evening. I will have to go to Springfield before I can cross the creek. They were reported to be on both sides of the river yesterday.

W. W. YOUNG,
Lieutenant, Commanding Scout.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION CAVALRY,
Grahamville, January 6, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: Colonel McLemore, of General Dibrell's command, who occupied the advance position toward the enemy from four miles from Grahamville, has just arrived here and reports that he sent a scout from his command at daylight to find the enemy, and that up to this time they have not returned. I therefore infer that the enemy are not advancing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

SPRINGFIELD, GA., *January 6, 1865.*

[Col. M. W. HANNON:]

COLONEL: I have delayed dispatching to you until now (12 m.) for the purpose of getting, if possible, definite information as to the enemy's movements in this direction. I have no information of their advance on the right of this post except for forage and wood. In front and on the left (Augusta road) they made their appearance in small force, but scouts say they have returned, and that they, too, were only protecting wagons after forage, &c. Captain Moncrief reports no Yankees on the right, this side of the canal. I have no information relative to a boat on the river. Have sent several scouts in that direction. Will let you know as soon as they are heard from. The scouts that have reported here since my arrival have no idea the enemy is advancing except for purposes above stated. I will know definitely this afternoon and will let you know.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, &c.,

MADISON BELL,
Captain.

P. S.—Captain Moncrief was on the scout himself yesterday, and knew nothing of the dispatch sent you last night. He was in one mile of the canal, which is only nine miles from Savannah. Since writing the above Lieutenant Long has come in from the river road past Ebenezer, and says the enemy was shooting across the creek at that post yesterday, but that they returned last night.

M. BELL,
Captain.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 7, 1865.*

General W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Inform me of your position and plans, what re-enforcements you expect from Georgia and South Carolina. Conner's brigade, from Lee's army, is en route to aid you. Have you heard from Hood, as to sending troops to Augusta?

JEFF'N DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 7, 1865.*

General W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

You will give special attention to the organization of the cavalry of your command, so as to promote discipline and efficiency, recommending specifically any action which you desire to be taken here. Battalions should, as far as consistent, be organized into regiments, and regiments into brigades of proper numerical strength, attention being given to the prospect of recovering absentees.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

CHARLESTON, *January 7, 1865.* (Received 5 o'clock.)

General S. COOPER:

We had information some days ago that the enemy were sending troops in transports down the river from Savannah. Confederate sur-

geons sent in our lines report troops passing Hilton Head in transports en route to Beaufort, said to be the Seventeenth Army Corps. Wheeler reports that the enemy have retreated from the Grahamville front to New River bridge; the force was infantry and not large.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 5. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, January 7, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

X. Maj. Jesse J. Bradford, of the Invalid Corps, is assigned to duty with the Reserves of Georgia, and will report to Maj. Gen. Howell Cobb, commanding, &c.

* * * * * * *

XVIII. Brig. Gen. E. M. Law, Provisional Army, C. S., is hereby relieved from duty with the Army of Northern Virginia.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. —. } HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE WEST, *January 7, 1865.*

Post commandants, provost-marshals, and enrolling officers on duty in the military division will not permit to pass within its limits officers and men on leave or furlough, or scouting parties of Wheeler's cavalry, unless their leave or furlough detailing the scouting parties is approved by Major-General Wheeler or his commanding officer. Such parties will be arrested and returned to their commands, and the names of subordinate commanders granting leaves or furloughs or ordering such details will be forwarded to these headquarters at Montgomery, Ala.

By command of General Beauregard:

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 7, 1865.*

Major-General MCLAWS:

The refusal to receive the flag of truce at Coosawhatchie is approved. Flags will be received as heretofore at Port Royal Ferry.

By order of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[JANUARY 7, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws, relating to operations, see Part I, p. 1117.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Grahamville, January 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. L. MCLAWS,
Commanding, &c., Pocotaligo:

GENERAL: If the Seventeenth Corps advances upon you you will, of course, have to fall back. Will you please advise me soon as you make any move from the Coosawhatchie. In that event I [will have] to extend my line [to] the Combahee; but that will necessitate the withdrawing of my line also, which will then extend, say, from McPhersonville to Robertsville. Do you think this will answer? If no more trains come up I will have to supply my command from the country. This will cause us to suffer very much; but, of course, we shall have to do the best we can.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 7, 1865.*

Surgeon-General GIBBES,
Charleston, S. C.:

Your dispatch received. My love for your State is equal to the hate our enemy bears it. The subject of your request has my constant care. You know what has been done. If it be possible to do more, the will is not wanting.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 8, 1865—12 m.*

His Excellency the PRESIDENT:

Your cipher telegram of the 7th received to-day. I am holding the line of railroad from the Savannah River to this place. The principal force on this line is at Pocotaligo, under Major-General McLaws, who when compelled to retire will take up the line of the Combahee, which I am actively engaged in fortifying. Major-General Wright's division is stationed in the Fourth Sub-District principally to protect the approaches from John's Island to the lower Combahee, inclusive. Brigadier-General Taliaferro's division is distributed in the Second and Third Sub-Districts, principally on James and Sullivan's Islands and in Christ Church Parish. Conner's brigade when it arrives will be stationed near Charleston, whence it can re-enforce the Second, Third, or Fourth Sub-Districts. I have armed the heavy artillery as infantry, brigaded the entire command, and hope soon to provide it with field transportation. Of the force above mentioned, McLaws' is the only command I regard as movable. The remainder is needed for the defense of Charleston. I am acting strictly on the defensive, and unless heavily re-enforced must continue to do so. In case of a movement upon Charleston similar to that on Savannah, a movable force of 15,000 additional men operating outside of the city defenses will be required to oppose the enemy. If this force cannot be furnished, 5,000 regular troops will still be required for the present defensive line. Governor Magrath promises to put in the field 5,000 militia, but I much question his ability to do so. I have requested him to place 1,500 militia at Barnwell, and a like number at Branchville, which with Wheeler's cavalry will make the railroad from Augusta to Branchville secure. I have no

reason to expect re-enforcements from Georgia other than Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith's force of militia, now at Augusta, which is rapidly diminishing by desertion, and numbers less than 1,500 muskets. I have no information whatever from Hood, and have no reason to expect re-enforcements from that quarter. My effective force in Carolina, exclusive of Conner's brigade, is as follows: 3,500 regular infantry, 3,000 reserves, 1,100 militia, 3,100 heavy artillerists, 1,700 light artillery, and 6,100 cavalry.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
Charleston, S. C., January 8, 1865.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
Richmond, Va.:

Wheeler's cavalry has been reorganized under my direct supervision, and now consists of three divisions and eight brigades. It is a well organized and efficient body. The reports of its disorganization and demoralization are without foundation, and the depredations ascribed to his command can generally be traced to bands of marauders claiming to belong to it. I know of nothing at present to add to its effectiveness except the promotion of Brigadier-General Allen to major-general, and of Colonel Dibrell to brigadier-general, for which recommendations have been sent on.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 8, 1865.*

General S. COOPER:

General D. H. Hill has probably already reported for duty with the Army of Tennessee.

If I might be allowed the suggestion, I would say that since the loss of general officers in that army he is probably more needed there than here.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ANDERSON'S COMMAND,
McKenzie's, January 8, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that in accordance with orders from the major-general commanding and General Anderson, I carried the dispatches yesterday from the major-general commanding and delivered them to Captain Audenried, U. S. Army, bearer of the Federal flag of truce. Captain Audenried had left Hardeeville before I arrived there, and I followed him on the road to Screven's Ferry until I reached the advance picket-post of the enemy, about one mile this side of Cheves' house and about five miles from Screven's Ferry. There were no indications of any large bodies of men having moved beyond their present position. The trees felled by us remain undisturbed, and certainly no wagons or artillery have come nearer than Mrs. Fitz's house (about two miles). The bridge over New River has

not been disturbed or rebuilt. The picket was from an Illinois regiment in Dustin's brigade, Ward's division, Twentieth Army Corps, or, as they expressed it, First [Second] Brigade, Third Division, Twentieth Corps. I inferred from all I saw, and all I could glean from the conversations of officers and men, that there was certainly one brigade, and probably two brigades, of infantry on this bank of Savannah River. There was nothing to show that cavalry had at any time been on this bank. I think they have the position at Cheves' house fortified. Captain Audenried said that General Sherman was anxious to commence sending out the citizens Monday (to-morrow) or at a very early day. I inclose herewith receipt of Captain Audenried for the sterling exchange sent Mrs. Cheves.

I have the honor to be, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. W. GORDON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 9, 1865.*

General W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Have you cavalry around Savannah to prevent the enemy from foraging on the surrounding country? If so, have you a good commander for it? If not, do circumstances permit you to employ a small but adequate force for that purpose?

JEFF'N DAVIS.

MONTGOMERY, *January 9, 1865.*

General S. COOPER:

Supposing General Hill reported for general assignment, he was ordered to report to General Hood, who has lost many general officers killed, wounded, or captured. General Hill is now here. Shall he return to Charleston?

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

CHARLESTON, *January 10, 1865.*
(Received 14th.)

General S. COOPER:

Your telegram of the 9th received. I telegraphed you on the 8th that Major-General Hill had been sent by General Beauregard to the Army of Tennessee. Brigadier-General Ripley was also ordered by General Beauregard to report for duty to General Hood.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER,
DEPT. OF SOUTH CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
Charleston, S. C., January 10, 1865.

Maj. WILLIAM H. ECHOLS,
Chief Engineer, District of South Carolina:

MAJOR. The defense of the Stono against a crossing from John's Island is a matter of much solicitude. Will you please call for an

immediate report from the officer in charge of the force engaged on this work and its progress? Besides this, I wish you to make a thorough personal inspection of the defense and direct any other work not now begun that in your judgment may be required. The trees on John's Island within 1,000 yards of our batteries, or any that would in any way conceal the movements of the enemy that can be removed with a reasonable amount of labor, should be felled. Field guns should be almost universally in embrasure, the improved ordnance of the present day in the hands of sharpshooters making barbette guns useless. Two deep embrasures for field pieces should be cut immediately on each flank of Fort Trenholm. You will please order this at once, and also have a proper abatis placed in front of the work.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

JOHN J. CLARKE,
Colonel and Chief Engineer.

CHARLESTON, *January 10, 1865.*
(Received 11th.)

Major-General WHEELER:

The following telegram received from Major-General Cobb:

Scouts report enemy 1,000 or 2,000 strong, with wagons and artillery, on Ohoopee River, marching in direction of Southwestern Georgia.

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 5. } HDQRS. MILITARY DIV. OF THE WEST, *January 10, 1865.*

I. In pursuance of a telegram from Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, Richmond, Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill and personal staff will proceed to Charleston and report to Lieutenant-General Hardee. Quartermaster's department will furnish transportation for their horses.

By command of General Beauregard:

GEO. WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SELMA, ALA., *January 11, 1865—7.30 a. m.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill has been ordered to report to Lieutenant-General Hardee.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

RICHMOND, *January 11, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Montgomery, Ala.:

Your assignment of Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill is approved.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 11, 1865.*

General W. J. HARDEE, *Charleston, S. C.:*

Yours of the 8th instant received. Your plan seems to me judicious and I hope may, with Divine favor, prove successful. General Beauregard is probably by this time at Hood's headquarters, and if troops have not already started to aid you he will, I am assured, make every exertion to re-enforce you from that army as rapidly as possible. You must use all means to obtain men from Georgia, either reserves, militia, or recruits. General Cobb can more effectually aid you by having his headquarters at Augusta. If your relations to Governor Brown enable you to influence him that is the means to be employed.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

[JANUARY 11, 1865.—For Hardee to Davis, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1067.]

SELMA, ALA., *January 11, 1865—7.30 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE, *Charleston, S. C.:*

Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill has been ordered to report to you. If not otherwise needed he might be assigned to command of the District of Augusta. There is a large amount of cotton in Augusta. It should be properly disposed of.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 8. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, Va., January 11, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

XI. Ten of the eleven companies composing the organization known in the Army of Tennessee as the Fourth Georgia Cavalry (formed upon the basis of the Twenty-third Georgia Battalion) will constitute the Twelfth Regiment Georgia Cavalry, to take effect from the 30th of January, 1863, the date of the organization effected under the orders of General Bragg. The eleventh company will be the subject of assignment to some Georgia battalion or other organization to be designated hereafter.

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JNO. W. RIELY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 6. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA., *Charleston, S. C., January 11, 1865.*

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II. On the arrival of Brigadier-General Browne's brigade in Augusta the operatives of the Athens factory, Georgia and Princeton factories will report to Maj. G. W. Cunningham for return to their establishments.

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By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

H. W. FEILDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 9. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA., *Charleston, S. C., January 11, 1865.*

II. Maj. Gen. Sam. Jones, having been assigned to the command of the District of Florida, by orders from the War Department, is relieved from duty in the District of South Carolina, and will proceed to take charge of his new command.

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By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

H. W. FEILDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GRAHAMVILLE, *January 11, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Headquarters Armies of the Confederate States:

GENERAL: Among other things to which I feel it my duty to call your attention is the following: In recommending officers for promotion to rank of major-general, I did not recommend Brigadier-General Ferguson, who is the third ranking brigadier-general of my command, because I thought others were much more competent, and, in fact, I felt certain he was not competent. General Ferguson once served upon General Beauregard's staff, and I am inclined to think from what General Beauregard's staff say that efforts are being made to have him promoted. General Ferguson was transferred to my command because General Jackson could not get along with him. Last spring General Ferguson had a brigade of over 1,500 men, and was then serving under General Jackson. About two months since he reported to me. His first report showed that his brigade had dwindled down to 547 effective total, while he had over 3,400 names on his rolls. I have succeeded in bettering its condition somewhat, and if he stays with me I will make it full and keep it full. General Ferguson had another brigade under his command last fall, which went almost to pieces while under his command. This officer General Beauregard's staff hold up as a model of a cavalry officer, while if General Beauregard's orders were strictly carried out he would be dropped from the rolls of the army for inefficiency. I will here state that I made strong objections to having General Ferguson transferred to my command, as he was always abusing General Jackson, and I felt he would adopt the same course with me. I feared this particularly, as it is the almost universal custom of neglectful officers to decry their commanders. I gave General Jackson another good brigade in exchange. I am happy to state that the charges against my command for depredations are untrue, and I have proofs in my possession to show that they are untrue. I have made two written applications to General Hardee to appoint a board of officers to investigate the charges, but as yet the board has not been appointed. Colonel Roman, of General Beauregard's staff, is now inspecting my command. It presents a very creditable appearance, considering the rapid marches and privations it has endured. Generals Allen and Humes have been doing their duty well during the year, and I have recommended them as most worthy of promotion. As stated in a former letter, my command is stronger now than it was before the campaign commenced last May.

With highest respect, your obedient servant and friend,

J. WHEELER.

BULLOCH COUNTY, GA., *January 11, 1865—5 p. m.*

SIR: The enemy have all left Tatnall and have gone back to Savannah. They made two attempts to cross the Cannouchee and failed. From the best information the enemy has all gone to Savannah and intends to make the Ogeechee their picket-line. There is no enemy near here. No other news of importance.

J. W. McCAUS,
Lieutenant, Commanding Scouts.

RICHMOND, *January 11, 1865.*

General HOWELL COBB,
Macon, Ga.:

It is thought best that your headquarters should be at Augusta, heretofore the place at which the conscript service has been administered, and whence the commandant of conscripts has been withdrawn for service in the field. As the point in Georgia now most immediately threatened, your presence and command may serve to collect there a larger number of the reserve forces. You will therefore establish yourself there with all practicable dispatch.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,
Tallahassee, January 11, 1865.

Lieut. Col. T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: During the time of Sherman's advance, the line of communication with department headquarters being cut, I thought it proper to send my communications directly to Richmond. I herewith inclose copies of such communications for the information of the lieutenant-general commanding, with the hope that the course taken will meet his approbation.

I have the honor to report that the Live Oak connection has been delayed by the sinking of the temporary work across the Suwanee, but that the bridge is completed, and the road will be finished in twenty days. I have continued the construction of this road in order to save the iron and rolling-stock of the Savannah, Albany and Gulf road to the Confederacy. You will find an explanation of the design in the inclosed letter to General Cooper.*

At a meeting of the directory of the Savannah, Albany and Gulf road they directed the president to take up this road from the Altamaha River to the Live Oak connection, at Lawton, and the laying of this iron from Thomasville to Bainbridge or to Albany. From Thomasville to Bainbridge the road bed, thirty-seven miles long, is graded, and the iron could be laid in three months. The Live Oak road is too near the sea-board, however, to be safe; and if the Florida roads are to be connected with this line a new road should be built from Monticello to Thomasville, twenty-one miles. You will see, also, from the letter to General Cooper, the proposed extension from Quincy to Appalaga, on the Chattahoochee. This last has been laid before the Secretary of War, by Mr. Hilton, and is also approved by the governor of Florida.

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* See January 2, p. 983.

If any of these plans are to be carried out prompt action is necessary, and with a view to this I am hurrying the conscription of the negroes for the engineer corps of this State. Under the late legislature we shall probably get 1,000. In order to establish telegraph communication from here to the forces on the Altamaha River I shall send Lieutenant-Colonel Beard to get the wire necessary, if possible, beyond that river. Twenty-five miles of wire is necessary to make the connection. In the meantime I have established a line of couriers from Madison to Quitman.

My information is that the enemy do not amount to more than 700 at Jacksonville, mostly blacks, and half as many more at Saint Augustine. They do not come out on this side of the Saint John's River. Two scouts between Jacksonville and Saint Augustine captured Colonel Noble, Seventeenth Connecticut Infantry, commanding at Saint Augustine, and a Lieutenant Rice, assistant provost-marshal at Jacksonville. The prisoners were forwarded to Columbus. During my command here Tallahassee and Marianna have been fortified, and such other fortifications as are considered necessary are in course of construction. As our line of supplies is now by the Chattahoochee, I have put 100 hands on the road from Chattahoochee to Quincy to put it in order. I am using my best efforts to discipline the troops of this command, but the extent of territory and the large amount of guard duty and coast to be defended, prevent the concentration so necessary to discipline. In order to effect this concentration I have called on His Excellency Governor Milton for militia to do guard duty at posts.

With the hope that these measures will be found judicious by the lieutenant-general commanding, I am, colonel, &c.,

W. MILLER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 9. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, January 12, 1865.*

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VIII. Capt. J. H. Pearce, assistant adjutant-general, is hereby relieved from duty with General Henry A. Wise's brigade, and is assigned to duty with R. H. Anderson's cavalry brigade, Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. —. } HDQRS. MILITARY DIV. OF THE WEST, *Montgomery, January 12, 1865.*

I. In pursuance to a telegram from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, Richmond, Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill will repair to Charleston and report to Lieutenant-General Hardee for assignment.

* * * * * * *

By command of General Beauregard:

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 12, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

Have you made preparations that will enable you to cross promptly a portion of your command into Georgia, if necessary?

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

JANUARY 12, 1865.

General W. J. HARDEE:

The report from General Cobb and all the other sensational reports which appear to prevail in Georgia, regarding enemy, are incorrect. My dispositions are such that enemy in Savannah cannot make any inland movement without my knowledge.

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 10. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, January 13, 1865.*

I. Col. C. T. Goode, of the Invalid Corps, is assigned to duty with the Reserves of Georgia, and will report to Maj. Gen. Howell Cobb, commanding, &c., Macon, Ga.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, *Grahamville, January 13, 1865.*

Commanding officers in procuring forage in this section will see that five bushels corn for each person dependent upon it is left each family, and that no milch cows are taken.

By order of Major-General Wheeler:

M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION, *Grahamville, S. C., January 13, 1865.*

Col. J. WARREN GRIGSBY,
Chief of Staff, Wheeler's Corps:

Major-General Wheeler, from his indorsement, I think is laboring under a misapprehension as to the guns alluded to by Captain Kanapaux. They are two 32-pounder columbiads at Dawson's Bluff, one or one mile and a half above Colonel Breckinridge's fortifications, and after the enemy dismounted one of them Captain Kanapaux sent a detachment from his battery at Bee Creek to move the other gun in case the enemy attempted to land at Dawson's Bluff.

Captain Kanapaux is commanding a battery of light artillery, one section of which is at Bee Creek and the other at Honey Hill, and three guns are absolutely necessary at each place. The heavy guns can be removed after night, but it will be hard to do it. One of the carriages

was broken by the enemy's battery, which is in good range of the works. I will await further orders before sending any order to Captain Kanapaux or Colonel Breckinridge.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Commanding, &c.

CAMP FIRST GEORGIA REGULARS,
January 13, 1865.

Capt. THOMAS BURDELL,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Fiser's Brigade:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor, in obedience to a verbal order received yesterday from Major-General McLaws, to make the following report of a reconnaissance made by myself for a line of intrenchment:

The major-general designated two points to me, one to be made the right, the other the left of the line. Between these two points I find that two lines can be obtained: One, about a mile and a quarter in length, runs through the field in front of the Frampton house; on reaching the road crossing the swamp near the Martin house it deflects to a course nearly parallel to the railroad, running in its present course through an old field and following the crest of the hill until it enters the woods again, which it does about half a mile from the point designated by General McLaws as the right of the line. This line I consider, though the longest, as the best adapted for defense; the other line is shorter by a good deal, not being more than three-quarters of a mile in length, but it is very objectionable on account of the very heavy amount of timber to be felled. To perform the work on either line would require about 200 spades, 30 axes, and a force of 500 men. I have to add that as yet I have received no order from brigade or division headquarters assigning me to engineer duty. If I am continued in this service I would respectfully ask that such an order be issued.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. S. WYLLY.

[JANUARY 14, 1865.—For Hardee to Davis, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1068.]

WILMINGTON, *January 14, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston:

The enemy has resumed his attack on Fort Fisher by large fleet and land force. My troops, now in your department, are much needed—Fiftieth Regiment and Tenth Battalion North Carolina Troops and Shober's regiment of Reserves. The latter cannot be legally kept out of its State after the 20th of January.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

CHARLESTON, *January 14, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

If possible, hold on to your position at Pocotaligo. General Walker at the same position defeated a large force with 200 or 300 men. I have

ordered Conner's brigade to re-enforce you. I shall order Wheeler to attack the enemy in flank. I shall leave here in the morning to join you.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 14, 1865.*

Capt. P. N. PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of inspection of batteries:

Battery Geddes.—Earth-work revetted; in fine order; has openings for five guns; but two mounted, one 32, rifled and banded, and one 24, smooth-bore. The 32-pounder has no ammunition and no implements. The 24-pounder has twenty-three round shot, nine canister, and two stand of grape; a new sponge is wanted. The magazine is quite dry and in good order, except that the outer door is down. It is manned by a detachment of fourteen men and one lieutenant. The lieutenant now in command is sick and goes to hospital to-day. The men are in good health, well clad, armed with rifles, have proper accouterments, and about thirty-five rounds of cartridges.

Battery Hayne.—Earth-work revetted; in tolerable order; has three guns mounted, one 32-pounder, rifled and banded, without implements or ammunition; two 24-pounders, rifled, eighty-eight shell, eighteen grape, twenty canister. Have rammers, sponges, and handspikes, but sponges worn out. Smaller implements, such as pouches, thumb-stalls, &c., are wanting. Garrison, fourteen men, armed with rifles, accouterments complete, and forty rounds of ammunition.

Battery Wilkes.—Earth-work revetted, with two guns mounted in main work, having also flank works for one gun each. One of the guns is a 32-pounder, rifled and banded. It is without implements or ammunition. The other is a 24-pounder, smooth-bore, with fifty round shot, twenty stand of grape, and forty-nine canister. The friction-primers are so large that they cannot be used. There are no implements except handspikes and rammer. The hub of one wheel is rotten. Magazine in good order. Garrison consists of eight men and one corporal.

Overflow Battery, No. 1.—Earth-work without embrasures or traverses. Has two guns mounted, one 32-pounder, smooth-bore, and one 24-pounder, smooth; have 140 cartridges; no projectiles for the 32-pounder; twelve shells for the 24-pounder. Have rammers and handspikes, but no small implements, such as pouches, thumb stalls, &c. Garrison, one sergeant, one corporal, and ten men.

Overflow Battery, No. 2.—Earth-work without embrasures and traverses. Has three guns, two 24-pounders and one 12-pounder, all smooth-bore; 208 cartridges for 24-pounder, 58 cartridges for 12-pounder, 30 shell, 114 grape, 124 canister for 24-pounder, and 79 shot, 53 canister, 50 shot for 12-pounder. There are a few handspikes, rammers, and a sponge, but all other implements are wanting. Garrison consists of fifteen men.

Battery Maywood.—Earth-work without embrasures or traverses. The platforms (two) are partially destroyed, otherwise the work is in good order. The wood opposite the battery is not more than 150 yards distant, consisting of swamp trees and pines, and would enable the enemy's marksmen to silence the battery. No garrison or guns.

Battery Gaillard.—Earth-work without embrasures or traverses. In good order. The wood to the left and front of this work also is too near. It is without garrison or guns.

Battery Miles.—Earth-work without embrasures or traverses. It is in good order. Wood to the right and front is not more than 200 yards distant. No garrison and no guns.

Battery Toomer.—Earth-work without embrasures or traverses. It is in good order but without garrison or guns.

Battery Bull.—Earth-work in good order, without embrasures or traverses. This is quite a formidable work, but there is a small pine wood to the left and front, less than 100 yards distant. The wood in front also is rather too near. There is no garrison and no guns. There is swamp covered with water along the whole of this line, but most of the water could be let off by the enemy by cutting the cross dams; still the grounds would be boggy and difficult. I would suggest that the wood in front all these batteries, from Battery Maywood to Battery Bull, be immediately cut down, and should time permit that rifle-pits be dug between the batteries.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

A. BURNET RHETT,
Major and Insp. of Arty., 2d and 3d Sub-Military Dists., S. C.

COOSAWHATCHIE, *January 14, 1865.*

Major-General MCLAWS:

Enemy have negro pickets in my front this morning where they have heretofore put white men.

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

GREEN POND, *January 14, 1865.*

General MCLAWS:

What are the enemy's movements to-day? Have just returned from Combahee Ferry. The enemy advanced in considerable force of infantry about noon to within two miles and a half of the bridge; they have now returned to their former position near Garden's Corners. Answer at Adams' Run.

A. R. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HORSPA BRIDGE, *January 14, 1865—6.15 a. m.*

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: As I have only 150 men to support my artillery and I may have to fall back, I would suggest that a battery of artillery be placed in the work on the Union road near Dr. J. Gregorie's place. In case it should become necessary for you to evacuate Pocotaligo and fall back, do inform me in time for me to retire by a lower road.

Respectfully,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

HORSPA BRIDGE, *January 14, 1865—9.30 a. m.*

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

We have checked thus far skirmishing. Now his advance has appeared in front of the bridge. Take care of our rear and we will try to hold the position as long as the general wishes.

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

HORSPA BRIDGE, *January 14, 1865—1.30 p. m.*

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Lieutenant Roberds, whom I stationed at Page's Point, reports the enemy still crossing at Port Royal Ferry on a pontoon bridge, with wagons and artillery, crossing in heavy numbers. There is no doubt that they have been continuously crossing since last night. The enemy are making a serious demonstration on my left about Sheldon Church, where I have but two small cavalry companies to meet them, and the position there is weak. We then drove back their cavalry, but their infantry is now advancing in heavy force. If they pass Sheldon Church I will have to evacuate this position. There is sharp musketry firing here and there. They have not opened with artillery as yet.

Respectfully,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

The obstructions on the Union road have been removed by Lieutenant Johnson's section heavy artillery, Third South Carolina Cavalry.

JUNCTION OF STONY CREEK AND JACKSON ROADS,
January 14, 1865—3.15 p. m.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy having flanked me by the Sheldon road and driven in my cavalry there, I am falling back to Old Pocotaligo. I could not hold the position at Stony Creek because the enemy were on the other road also.

Respectfully,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Pocotaligo, January 14, 1865.

Colonel COLCOCK:

I have ordered all detachments to report to you, and have been trying all day to get General Wheeler to relieve the cavalry upon the line between Coosawhatchie and Dawson's Bluff, but for some reason he does not answer. Meet the flank movement with an advance or threaten it, and it may counteract it.

Very respectfully,

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

Colonel Harrison reports that the enemy have negro pickets in front of their line where there were white men before. Perhaps the white troops have been withdrawn to make this present attack. If so, you have but Foster's people against you, and probably not a large force.

I have just been notified by General Wheeler that your three companies over there have been ordered to be relieved. Hope they will come soon.

A full battery and a strong regiment of infantry are on your left on the Union road. I will send word to the officer there to make a demonstration.

GRAHAMVILLE, S. C., *January 14, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,

Headquarters Armies of the Confederate States:

GENERAL: If it is practicable I think it would be a good plan for the Government to send a proper officer, one who is unprejudiced, to inspect my command. His report would show to the Government its true condition and correct a great many wrong impressions.

With highest respect, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER.

GRAHAMVILLE, *January 14, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,

Headquarters Armies of the Confederate States:

GENERAL: I have just been informed that the War Department are about to promote General Ferguson to major-general to command one of my divisions. It is my duty to state that I think this would be very injurious to my command. General Ferguson belonged to General Jackson's command last summer, and according to General Jackson's statement was very inefficient. General Jackson tried to make him do his duty properly, and had him tried before a court-martial for neglect of duty. As General Jackson could not get along with him, it was proposed to transfer him to my command in place of one of my brigades. This I opposed, as I had suffered sufficiently from such characters, but at General Hood's solicitation I finally gave my consent, on condition that Ferguson was not to interfere with my organization. I consequently have kept him detached as much as possible, but have become convinced that my command is very little strengthened by his being with it. In fact, I would have no objection to his leaving with his entire brigade. To promote him, instead of Generals Humes and Allen, my present division commanders, would have a worse effect upon my command than anything I can now think of. It would be rewarding bad conduct and unsoldierly spirit. General Ferguson had, I am informed, 1,700 effective men when he arrived at Rome last year, and when he reported to me his report showed 547 effective men and 3,400 on the rolls, showing a want of care which no command under my orders ever yet exhibited. I have taken measures to get and keep his men in ranks, which is partially successful, and will, I think, finally work good results.

My associations with General Ferguson have always been of the most pleasant character. I mention this to assure you that there is nothing personal in this matter. What is stated in this letter can be substantiated by all the general officers in General Jackson's and my

command. I am happy to inform you that my command is in good condition. Notwithstanding the arduous service of the last five months it is in as good condition as any cavalry in the Confederate service. If I can have two weeks' rest I will have it in better condition than any cavalry in the service. We are now drilling every day, notwithstanding we are picketing a line of 200 miles.

With highest respect, your obedient servant and friend,

J. WHEELER.

CHARLESTON, *January 14, 1865—9 p. m.*

General WHEELER:

If possible attack the enemy in flank if he advances against Pocotaligo.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

POCOTALIGO, *January 14, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

The enemy advancing on my left will necessitate my withdrawal unless re-enforced. Can you come over and arrange for the establishment of your new line along by McPhersonville? Answer.

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

POCOTALIGO, *January 14, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

The forces at Coosawhatchie are retiring now.

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

POCOTALIGO, *January 14, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

You had better come over with a division of your cavalry. The enemy are driving everything in their front and advancing rapidly.

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

GRAHAMVILLE, *January 14, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

The three companies of the Third South Carolina Cavalry have been ordered relieved. If you retire my presence here is actually necessary to withdraw my command properly. I send for Colonel Grigsby immediately and will come soon as I have withdrawn upon new line. Will come at once, however, if you direct it sooner.

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

POCOTALIGO, *January 14, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

The enemy are immediately in front here at Pocotaligo. I will try and withdraw to-night, the movement commencing from the right. Do

not send any cavalry here; there is no necessity for it. Keep communication open by way of Broxton's Bridge. The enemy have a bridge at Port Royal Ferry.

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 15, 1865.*

General W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

You will please confer with Commodore Tucker as to present employment of the naval force at Charleston. I have this day sent a suggestion to him in that connection.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 15, 1865.*

General W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Yours of yesterday received.* I hope General Butler's division of cavalry will soon be with you. Have nothing from General Beauregard which enables me to say when or with what force he will reach you. I have called on the governor of Georgia, invoking his aid to sustain you in holding the line of the Combahee as better for defense than any you can take in the rear of it. I hope you will be able to check the advance of the enemy, and to be re-enforced before he can construct works to operate against your position.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 15, 1865.*

Commodore TUCKER,
Commanding, Afloat, Charleston, S. C.:

The movements of Sherman render it important that you should, if practicable, attack the enemy's force off the harbor. I trust that you can do so, and, if successful, that you may be able to destroy his depot at Hilton Head and render the most valuable aid to General Hardee.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

SALKEHATCHIE STATION,
CHARLESTON AND SAVANNAH RAILROAD,
January 15, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOSEPH WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: The movements of the enemy indicate a serious advance either up the Salkehatchie, by which, crossing the river at Broxton's Bridge or higher up, they will reach the railroad at Midway, or some other point between Augusta and Branchville, or, by forcing a passage near the railroad bridge over the Salkehatchie, they will be able either to advance directly on Charleston or on Branchville. It is important that you should send a force at once to Broxton's Bridge to watch the enemy and to oppose his progress. I have not been able to obtain any information to-day respecting the movements of the enemy which is satisfactory. I have re-enforced McLaws at this point and have ordered

* See Part I, p. 1068.

a brigade to Broxton's Bridge, which will reach there, I hope, to-morrow. You must protect the railroad with all your force. I have directed a telegraph office to be opened at Midway. Take charge of Colcock's cavalry and see that it fights. I fear that it did not win any laurels yesterday. Keep constantly in presence of the enemy and inform me of everything important that occurs. Block the roads in front of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant General.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' CAVALRY DIVISION,
Cypress Creek, January 15, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have just arrived with my command at Cypress Creek. I was not molested by the enemy en route. My wagon train is already up and camped.

Very respectfully, lieutenant, your obedient servant,

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Beaver Dam Swamp, January 15, 1865.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

We arrived at this place, which is four miles from Gillisonville and three miles from the forks of the Robertsville and Lawtonville road, about day this morning, leaving a picket from the Kentucky Brigade on the Coosawhatchie road. Nothing from the enemy to-day. We will also picket the road we traveled and the road to Robertsville. If General Anderson leaves Robertsville our camps ought to be as far back as the forks of the road. Forage in this vicinity is very scarce. I will not allow any taken unless by consent of the owners. I think we could get nearer it by moving to the forks of the road, and picket and scout just as well. Captain Kanapaux failed to get to Coosawhatchie last night, and is here with his battery (four guns). Sergeant McDaniel, of Wiggins' battery, is with me also, with two guns. What shall I do with them? McDaniel wants to report to his company, with General Humes. Please inform me at what hour this command will be inspected, so that I can have as many men present as possible. The two guns at Dawson's Bluff were rendered useless and spiked, and all the ammunition brought off that could be brought with our limited transportation.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding Division.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 15, 1865.*

Governor J. E. BROWN,
Milledgeville, Ga.:

The present condition of affairs in Eastern Georgia requires that General Hardee should be promptly and largely re-enforced. His line

on the Combahee is stronger for defense than any he can take in rear of it. I have sought and am seeking to aid him. Have no information from General Beauregard which enables me to judge of the time when he may be expected or of the force he can bring. Can you send men to assist General Hardee to hold the enemy in check? If so, how many and how soon? We must look forward and leave discussions of the past to a more convenient season.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 16, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Tupelo, Miss.:

General Hardee reports on 14th instant enemy in heavy force advancing from Beaufort, by Port Royal Ferry Landing, on our position at Pocotaligo.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[JANUARY 16, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1068.]

CHARLESTON, *January 16, 1865.*

Major-General MCLAWS:

Should the enemy move in force up the Salkehatchie, move in a parallel line with him with all your force, except Conner's brigade.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 16, 1865.*

Major-General MCLAWS:

Lieutenant-General Hardee directs me to say that the force at Broxton's must be 2,000 strong. He wishes the Georgia Reserves to be included in the force sent there.

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BROXTON'S BRIDGE, *January 16, 1865.*

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to state that pursuant to orders from Colonel Harrison, commanding, I withdrew my batteries from Coosawhatchie at 7.30 p. m. 14th instant, and I arrived at this point at 10 p. m. yesterday. The condition of the causeway and the depth of water at Johnson's causeway over Cypress Creek made it necessary that I should cross above and go by Cypress Creek Church. This made the distance to McBride's Store rather more than twenty-eight miles, and I reached there at 8 a. m. yesterday, and rested for

five hours, my horses and men being very much jaded and the wagons had been sent off the day before, leaving no forage or rations. (I had received no orders to have any cooked rations on hand.)

Captain Zimmerman joined me here (McBride's), and the depth of water in Whippy Swamp again necessitated a detour to the left, and in addition the condition of the bridges over it delayed me for some time. I crossed the bridge here this morning, having reached the other bank at 10 last night, and found it in a most shattered condition. My command is very much jaded, and I would like to let horses and men have a little rest if consistent with circumstances. I shall at once try to familiarize myself with crossings of the river above this. I received some dispatches from you this morning. Captain Heyward had just gone, and I sent them on to him. Captain H. reached here yesterday at 12 m. Colonel Colcock ordered [him this] morning to report with his command to him at McTier's above Brailsfordville (which is above McPhersonville). He left with about forty of the squadron, so that now there is nothing here but my command. Captain Heyward sent the dispatch for General Wheeler directly on. I am informed by Captain Heyward that it is twenty-one miles from here to Midway on the South Carolina Railroad. Would it not be well to establish a line of couriers to that point? I am much in need of some stores from the ordnance department, for which I have required on Captain Smith; do have me informed so soon as they arrive. If they have not already been ordered to Green Pond would it not be better to order them sent to Midway? Do have this letter conveyed to Captain Brown; be pleased to read it.

The last information received from the enemy was through some scouts of Captain Heyward's, whom he left behind. They came to me yesterday at McBride's Store and told me [that at] 10 the night previous the enemy advanced at Coosawhatchie in considerable force, both cavalry and infantry, and that they were chased for a mile, &c. I sent one of them on here to report to Captain Heyward and the other two back to obtain something definite.

I must request that scarcity of paper may be an excuse for writing upon so many subjects on the same sheet. I feel that the efficiency of command would be augmented very much by turning in the Blakely which Zimmerman has. It is useless with the ammunition we have or that can be made in this country, and the horses are much needed. He has four Napoleons. Can't I turn it in and send it to Midway?

I have, captain, the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. E. EARLE,
Captain, Commanding Battery Light Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' CAVALRY DIVISION,
Cypress Creek, S. C., January 16, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp, &c.:

LIEUTENANT: To-day about 12 m. about one regiment of Yankee cavalry drove my pickets back to Gillisonville. I have sent to ascertain the particulars. A portion of Colcock's regiment came up this morning and reported that a Yankee raiding party—they did not know the numbers—came up from below Grahamville toward Grahamville. I do not think they will advance farther to-day.

Very respectfully, lieutenant, your obedient servant,

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
January 16, 1865.

Col. D. C. JENKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Our pickets report the enemy advancing on the road from here to Gillisonville. The picket has seen only about twenty Yankees. We do not know in what force they are advancing.

Respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding Cavalry Division.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Beaver Dam, January 16, 1865.

Col. D. C. JENKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: The enemy has fallen back to a point a short distance this side of Gillisonville, but a small party came near our camp. Our pickets are skirmishing with him a little. A regiment has been sent forward to ascertain his strength, &c. The firing of a few guns has been heard upon road leading to General Humes' camp. The enemy this morning captured a wagon and mules, and four men from Kanapaux's battery. The wagon was going to Gillisonville, without my knowledge, after baggage belonging to the battery.

Respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
January 16, 1865—2.30 o'clock.

Colonel JENKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

COLONEL: The enemy have retired, going in the direction of Grahamville. Their force was about fifty men. I have withdrawn my force and am moving on to new camp. I have left a picket, beyond old camp, of thirty men, with instructions to scout every twelve hours.

Respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding, &c.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 17, 1865.*

Governor A. G. MAGRATH,
Charleston, S. C.:

Yours of the 15th received to-day. I had no information of the withdrawal of troops by General Bragg. Will communicate with General Lee, who commands department including Wilmington. Major-General Butler's division was directed to proceed as rapidly as possible to South Carolina. General Hampton has, I suppose, gone also. General Beauregard is at headquarters of Hood's army, with orders to bring all the troops which can be spared and resume control of operations against Sherman. I am fully alive to the importance of successful resistance to Sherman's advance, and have called on the governor of Georgia to give all the aid he can furnish. Had you not better correspond with him on that point?

JEFF'N DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, January 17, 1865.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: The dispatch of General Hardee, of the 10th instant, relative to the 200 men of Col. E. C. Anderson's cavalry regiment, has been received. I desire that Colonel Anderson, with all his men in Georgia, and all the men of Young's brigade in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, be ordered to join their division under General Butler upon its arrival in that department.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

[JANUARY 17, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1068.]

CHARLESTON, *January 17, 1865.*
(Received 18th.)

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Deserters from the enemy concur in stating that the force which crossed at Port Royal Ferry, and which is now [in] vicinity of Pocotaligo, consists of Fifteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps; also that their destination is Charleston. They add that this force brought few wagons and but little artillery with it, but that Sherman was to have marched about the same time from Savannah. No developments to-day.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS HARRISON'S BRIGADE,
In the Field, Broxton's Bridge, January 17, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Colonel Harrison directs me to inform you of the following disposition of the infantry portion of the force under his command: Colonel Daniel, with the Fifth Georgia Regulars, detachment First South Carolina Cavalry, dismounted, and the Third Georgia Reserves, holds the line from Broxton's Bridge to Dubois' Landing, including those two points. Lieutenant-Colonel Bacon, with the Thirty-second and Forty-seventh Georgia Regiments, regulars, holds Rivers' Bridge. Colonel Cumming, Fifth Georgia Reserves, holds Buford's Bridge with his regiment. Lieutenant-Colonel Neely, with the First Georgia Reserves, holds Morris' Ford.

These reserve troops have not yet reported, but will be put in the positions above mentioned as soon as they arrive. He desires to know if this disposition of the troops is approved by the major-general commanding. Colonel H. has gone to Buford's Bridge to examine it and the intermediate crossings. He will be back this evening.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. M. BLOUNT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Steep Bottom Church, January 17, 1865—9.15 a. m.

General L. McLAWS,
Commanding, near Salkehatchie Station:

GENERAL: There were captured day before yesterday, near Station No. 6, three Yankee prisoners who belong to the Eighteenth Missouri Regiment, Sheldon's brigade, Mower's [division], Seventeenth Corps. They state that the Seventeenth Corps was near Station No. 6, and that the Fifteenth, commanded by Sweeny [Logan], is at Beaufort. They say there is no cavalry with them; that they heard their cavalry had crossed the Savannah River about the 1st of this month, about three miles above Savannah. They drew ten days' rations (in haversacks) on the 10th, and marched from Beaufort on 13th. They do not know the amount of artillery or number of wagons with them, but say their wagon train is small; say the talk in camp is that Charleston is their destination. There are four regiments in his brigade, numbering in all about 2,000 men who carry guns, and that their brigade is the largest in the division. They received some recruits at Savannah and some at Beaufort. They say the Fourth [Fourteenth] and Twentieth Corps were to march from Savannah to Charleston by the line of the railroad. A scouting party of about fifty men came up a short distance this side of Gillisonville yesterday, and was driven back toward Grahamville.

I inclose a report of General Dibrell relative to the capture of a wagon.*

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

N. B.—The Savannah is so high that our batteries had to be withdrawn at Mathews' Bluff. The works are covered with water.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH GEORGIA CAVALRY,
January 17, 1865.

Capt. R. F. LAWTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Your communication of the 10th instant received. I have done as directed in regard to the disposition of the forces under my command. In regard to the troops in the country, there are none but Hood's battalion that are on duty, and I understand that there is but sixty left of them and they badly demoralized. They picket at Fort Barrington, below Doctor Town, and at Beard's Bluff above, on the Altamaha. They have a fragment of a company at Waynesville. Captain Cosby, commanding a detachment engaged in hunting deserters, is now reporting to me with about thirty men. These are all the Confederate troops of whom I have any knowledge in this section of country, except fifteen men belonging to a Mississippi battalion of General Ferguson's regiment [brigade]. Scouts report no enemy this side of the Ogeechee River.

I am, captain, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN L. HARRIS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

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* See January 16, p. 1018.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Tallahassee, January 17, 1865.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President Confederate States of America:

SIR: I have the honor to submit to you the following suggestions looking to the defense of the people of Florida from the forces of the enemy at Savannah. I approach the subject with diffidence, knowing the great cares which engross your attention, and that every available resource is now needed to meet the masses of the enemy at other points. Yet there are considerations vitally connected with the continuance of the war which demand that every means which can be spared by the Government shall be used to protect Southwest Georgia and Florida from the enemy's raids. Amongst these considerations I suggest as most important the supplies of subsistence and forage, the country being as yet unpenetrated by the enemy; also the general disaffection to be apprehended from their successful inroad, the re-enforcements they would obtain by slaves, and the proximity of this entire region to the Gulf coast, which if once occupied will render its recovery extremely difficult. I am constrained from a careful observation and from all the information I have received to regard with the most serious forebodings the effect on public opinion in the State of Georgia of the recent march of the enemy through her territory and their establishment at Savannah.

This state of feeling, together with the abundant supplies, the short distance from Savannah, and the facilities supplied by the Albany and Gulf Railroad to Thomasville, and the connection with Florida at Live Oak, present the inducement and the means for a successful and ruinous invasion of Southwest Georgia and Middle Florida. I would respectfully submit for your consideration the following measures, which, in my opinion, are the most effectual that can be adopted to protect this portion of the Confederacy until the movement of the main armies shall enable us to arrive at more practical results:

First. The assignment of the southwest counties of Georgia and Alabama bordering on Florida to the Military District of Florida.

Second. The retention of the reserves and the detailed men of those counties in the district for military service therein.

Third. The immediate removal of the iron from the Albany and Gulf Railroad from a point as near Savannah as practicable.

Fourth. The construction of a railroad from Thomasville to Albany and of a railroad from Quincy to the Appalachicola River, which I recommended years ago.

With proper energy and military ability, with the use of the militia forces of this State and the adjacent counties of Georgia, which I doubt not can be procured through officers of this State well known in those counties, and with the co-operation of the Executive of Georgia, I shall feel some degree of confidence that we shall be able to defeat any force which the enemy will probably send against us during the pendency of larger operations elsewhere. Without such measures we may fall a prey to a comparatively small force.

I respectfully and earnestly urge your immediate and favorable consideration of this subject and the adoption of such measures as will carry the suggestions made into immediate effect.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

JOHN MILTON,
Governor of Florida.

[JANUARY 18, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1068.]

CHARLESTON, *January 18, 1865.*

His Excellency President JEFFERSON DAVIS:

Telegram of the 15th instant received. I have consulted with General Hardee and commanding officers of the squadron and it is decided impracticable to make the attack as proposed by you. I have but two iron-clads and they are with defective steam power. The enemy has six or seven monitors, besides several wooden vessels and heavy land batteries. In my opinion the attack proposed would result in our capture or make it necessary to destroy the vessels, with all on board, to prevent their falling into the hands of the enemy. This sacrifice I am ready to make if it will advance the public interests.

J. R. TUCKER,
Flag-Officer.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Near McTier's, January 18, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Citizens say that Generals Sherman and Howard are at Pocotaligo. Prisoners captured by some of General Wheeler's men say the Fifteenth Army Corps is in Beaufort. By citizens I mean two boys, who say they saw Sherman and Howard and that Sherman says he is building a railroad from Beaufort to Pocotaligo, and will furnish transportation there to the poor, and rations on their arrival. Our pickets are near the enemy. They have attempted no forward movement from Pocotaligo yet, except scouting and foraging parties.

Very respectfully,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis, First Tennessee Cavalry, reports the enemy advancing in large force, 9 a. m., on McPhersonville. I think, as they are not advancing on this road also, that their object is quarters or to burn the village.

C. J. COLCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS,
Salkehatchie, January 18, 1865.

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: Deserters taken by scouts from this side report two corps about Pocotaligo, the Seventeenth and Fifteenth. A lady who came over with a sick husband, under flag of truce, reports the enemy in very heavy force. The President telegraphs that he expects an obstinate resistance along the line of the Combahee until re-enforcements arrive. Fort Fisher has fallen and most of the garrison captured, General Whiting and staff with the rest.

Very respectfully,

L. McLAWS,
Major-General, Commanding.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 19, 1865.*

Gen. G. T. BEAUREGARD:

General Hill having arrived at Augusta, General Hardee has been authorized, at his request, to place him on duty there.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector-General.

RICHMOND, *January 19, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

In a telegram addressed to the President some time since you stated that Wheeler's cavalry had been reorganized. It is desirable that the Department should know what is the new organization; how many divisions and how formed. The recommendation for the promotion of Brigadier-General Humes approved and forwarded by you, is now under consideration, but no action can be taken until the information requested is furnished. There are already three major-generals, Wheeler, Martin and Young, credited to this cavalry corps.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 19, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Augusta, Ga.:

Report to General Hardee for duty at Augusta.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

HEADQUARTERS HARRISON'S BRIGADE,
Broxton's Bridge, January 19, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Division Headquarters:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inclose an order from General Hardee, relative to sending any troops up to Morris' Ford at present. Colonel Pickett asked me to send you a copy of it. Kanapaux's battery has reported to me. General Hardee directed me to keep it if I needed it; if not, to send it on down to you. At present I do not need it, but as soon as my artillery is put in position I will need it, as I have four crossings to guard, at each of which a battery will be needed. Shall I send it down to you or not? I have partially examined my line as far up as Buford's Bridge. The swamp is quite an obstacle, but by no means do I consider it impassable for infantry. It will require a continuous line of skirmishers between the different crossings to prevent the enemy from flanking our works at the different bridges; this I have not force enough to do. I think inclosed works should be erected at each bridge, in order that they may [be] held in case the enemy cross above or below them until re-enforcements could be brought to the point attacked. This is being done at this point, but at neither of the other bridges. Very few hands are at work, and hence the works are progressing slowly. If you can furnish me tools I will put soldiers to work, but think more negroes should be put on the line. No roads are yet cut along the swamp with which we can relieve or communicate with our pickets. I will put soldiers to work at this as soon as the

acting engineer marks out the line. I will try and get up to Morris' Ford in time to learn the swamp there before the enemy threatens that position.

I have no news from the cavalry to-day; would like very much if arrangements could be made for me to get information from General Wheeler. I have established a relay of couriers to Branchville, but have only one man at each post as yet. I have sent the Blakely gun of Zimmerman's battery to Branchville, owing to scarcity of horses in his battery. Is this right? If you can procure a map of this county do get it for me.

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

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*Report of guns of, or in position, Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.**

	Smooth-bore guns.													
	11-inch Dahlgren (barbette).	10-inch columbiad (barbette).	8-inch columbiad (barbette).	8-inch naval columbiad (barbette).	42-pounder barbette (center pintle).	32-pounder barbette.	24-pounder barbette.	24-pounder siege.	18-pounder siege.	12-pounder barbette.	12-pounder siege.	6-pounder field.	9-inch Dahlgren.	8-inch siege.	4.75-inch.
Battery White							4	2			1	1			
Battery Warren						1									
Fort Moultrie		4													
Battery Marshall			1	1							1				
Battery Bee	1	4	1												
Battery Marion		3	1												
Battery Beauregard		1	1			1	2								
Battery Rutledge		3													
Two-gun batteries						4	4								
Battery Evans						1									
Battery Palmetto													1		
Battery Gary			2												
Battery Kinloch						1									
Christ Church lines							2							2	
Fort Sumter		1													
Castle Pinckney		4													
Battery Waring		2													
Battery Ramsey	1	3													
Spring-Street Battery		1													
Battery over the Ashley		1													
New lines:															
Work 0			1												
Work 1								2			2				
Work 2				1		2	1								
Work 3								2	2						
Work 4						2		2							
Work 5								2			1				
Secessionville					1	3	1					2			
Fort Lamar				3		2			1						
Redoubt No. 1				1		1									
Battery Ryan						1									
Battery Tatum						1									
Battery Haskell			1									2			
Battery Cheves			3												
Battery Simkins				2											
Fort Johnson		2													
Battery Wampler		2													
Battery Harleston		3													
Battery Tynes			2												
Battery Pringle		2		2											
Fort Trenholm		2				2		2				6			
Battery Washington						1		1	1						
Battery Haig							2								
Battery Wilkes							1								
Battery Geddes							1								
Battery Palmer				1		2	2				1				
Works on overflow						1	2	1			1				

* Forwarded by Lieut. Gen. W. J. Hardee, January 19, 1865, in compliance with circular from War Department dated December 20, 1864.

Report of guns of, or in position, Department of South Carolina, etc.—Continued.

	Smooth-bore guns.														
	11-inch Dahlgren (barbette).	10-inch columbiad (barbette).	8-inch columbiad (barbette).	8-inch naval columbiad (barbette).	42-pounder barbette (center pintle).	32-pounder barbette.	24-pounder barbette.	24-pounder siege.	18-pounder siege.	12-pounder barbette.	12-pounder siege.	6-pounder field.	9-inch Dahlgren.	8-inch siege.	4.75-inch.
Works at Church Flats	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	1	.....
Works at Pineberry	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Works at Willstown	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Works at Caw Caw	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Works at Stock's Causeway.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Works at Burnett's	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Works at Dawson's Bluff	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Works at Red Bluff	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Batteries on the Appalachicola River.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Battery at Saint Mark's	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
In various other positions	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....
Total	2	38	14	11	1	36	28	17	4	1	9	31	1	3	1

	Rifled guns.												
	12.75-inch Blakely (front pintle).	10-inch columbiad (barbette).	8-inch columbiad (barbette).	7-inch Brooke.	6.40-inch Brooke	42-pounder barbette (front pintle).	42-pounder barbette (center pintle).	32-pounder barbette.	24-pounder barbette.	24 pounder siege.	18-pounder barbette.	12-pounder barbette.	12-pounder siege.
Battery White	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Battery Warren	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Fort Moultrie	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Battery Marshall	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Battery Bee	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Battery Marion	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Battery Beauregard	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Battery Rutledge	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fort Sumter	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Castle Pinckney	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Battery Ramsey	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Battery, Frazer's Wharf	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Battery, Calhoun street	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Battery, Vanderhorst's Wharf.	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Half-Moon Battery	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New lines:													
Work 1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Work 3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Secessionville	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	1	1	.....	.....
Fort Lamar	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Battery Ryan	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Battery Simkins	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fort Johnson	.....	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Battery Harleston	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Battery Glover	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Battery Tynes	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Battery Pringle	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fort Trenholm	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Works at Willstown	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Works at Ashepoo	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	1
Works at Burnett's	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Works at Red Bluff	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Battery at Saint Mark's	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	2	3	10	6	3	4	8	19	3	3	2	1	7

Report of guns of, or in position, Department of South Carolina, etc.—Continued.

	Rifled guns.						Howitzers.					42-pounder carronades, navy slides.	Mortars.	
	20-pounder Parrott.	4-inch Blakely.	3½-inch Blakely.	4.62-inch.	3-inch.	James.	8-inch sea-coast.	8-inch siege.	24-pounder (iron).	24-pounder Austrian (bronze).	12-pounder (iron).		10-inch.	32-pounder rifled and banded.
Fort Moultrie													1	
Battery Marshall		1					3							
Battery Marion													5	
Battery Beauregard							3						3	
Christ Church lines	2													
New lines:														
Work 1								1						
Work 2							1							
Work 4							1							
Secessionville								1						
Battery Ryan										5				
Battery Tatum										2				
Battery Haskell							1					2		1
Battery Simkins													3	
Fort Johnson										2				
Works at Pineberry				1										
Works at Willstown			2											
Works at Burnett's				1										
Works at Old Pocotaligo									1	2				
Works at Dawson's Bluff					1									
In various other positions						6					2			
Total	2	1	2	2	1	6	9	2	1	11	2	2	12	1

A. J. GONZALES,
Colonel and Chief of Artillery, Department S. C., Ga., and Fla.

[JANUARY 19, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1117.]

CHARLESTON, *January 20, 1865.*

General S. COOPER:

Telegram of 19th in relation to Wheeler's cavalry received. Information sent by mail to-day.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. MOUNTED DETACH., ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Heyward's House, January 20, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that I have arranged my picket-line along the Combahee, and that the connection between myself and General Mercer on your left is complete. I found a small company of Reserve cavalry on duty at this point by order of General Mercer, but after riding over the lines and seeing General Mercer they were removed to below Cuckold's Creek, where my line connects with

them. Captain Lowry pickets at Daniel Blake's and above. The line is as well guarded as the limited number of my command will admit of. I find that all the corn at or near this point has been contracted for by Major Holcombe, commissary of subsistence, in accordance with the verbal order of the general. I have supplied myself from it. Shall I continue to do so?

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. CHURCH,
Captain, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CONNER'S BRIGADE,
January 20, 1865—1.15 p. m.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: At Colonel Kennedy's request I desire to inform the major-general commanding that the enemy have appeared in our front to the left of the railroad. While I am writing they are exchanging shots with our pickets. The colonel does not think it more than a reconnoitering party who are endeavoring to ascertain our force. Every arrangement has been made to meet them at all points.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. HOLMES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

LAWTONVILLE, S. C., *January 20, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Headquarters Armies of the Confederate States:

GENERAL: Since writing you a few days since relative to the promotion of General Ferguson, in which letter I gave you some excellent reasons why he should not be promoted, I have learned that he was strongly recommended for promotion by General Beauregard. General Ferguson has never served under General Beauregard as a cavalry officer, and I think General Beauregard has not had opportunity of judging of his fitness for that position. I have just seen General Anderson, who is a friend of General Ferguson, yet, with his friendship, he tells me that it would be very disastrous to the command if General Ferguson is made major-general. He says General Ferguson was insubordinate as a cadet, insubordinate as a lieutenant in the U. S. Army, and insubordinate as a brigadier under General Jackson. I have also had evidences of insubordination since he has been with me, and should he be promoted I think he will certainly prove insubordinate as a division commander. I have had so much trouble with such officers that I most heartily wish to have no more such under my command. If under my command, I wish their influence over as few troops as possible. Besides this, his command is the most undisciplined of any with me. General Anderson also informs me that Ferguson never loses an opportunity to depreciate his commander in the opinion of his command, which is another vital reason why he would be an incumbrance to me or any other commanding officer. Insubordinate officers are the worst enemies our country has to fear. I also learn that General Young has been recommended for promotion for a command here. I hope this is not so. I have officers much more efficient in all respects, and their (Young's and Ferguson's) appointment would decrease the

efficiency of this command, which by hard labor I claim to have made the best instructed, best disciplined, and best fighting cavalry in the Confederacy.

The reports you have heard regarding the depredations of my command I am able to prove are, for the most part, basely false. I can also show that no officer in the Confederacy has taken one-half the care I have taken to protect citizens in person and property, and now they are beginning to appreciate my efforts. If you desire more full reasons why the appointments of Generals Young and Ferguson would be detrimental, I would refer to the conditions of their commands, which shows a depletion exceeding any other in my command. Generals Allen and Humes are brave, subordinate, and withal good disciplinarians. While they have been in command of my divisions I have had thus far good success, and not a single reverse. Every reverse I have ever had thus far has been when I was crossed by insubordinate and tricky officers. General Hardee is having my troops inspected, and I would respectfully refer you to the reports of his officers as to their efficiency and discipline. General Hardee is also having reports of their depredations inspected, who will also be able to show what wrong impressions have been made.

The enemy appear to be moving in a direction which would indicate Branchville or Charleston as their destination. My command is somewhat spread out. A little more than a third is on the Georgia side of the river guarding from the Savannah River to the coast near the mouth of the Altamaha.

With highest respect, your obedient servant and friend,

J. WHEELER.

P. S.—General Robertson is fast recovering, and I hope soon to have him with me. He is brave and efficient, and his brigade under him will be the best in the service. He will soon earn promotion to major-general. He is now more worthy of it than either Generals Young or Ferguson.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
January 20, 1865.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston:

Prisoners taken yesterday and to-day report Seventeenth Corps at Pocotaligo, and Twentieth at Hardeeville.

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Lawtonville, January 20, 1865.

Maj. Gen. L. MCLAWS,
Commanding, &c., Salkehatchie Station:

GENERAL: I did not understand whether the instructions for me to report to you included sending my routine papers through you, or simply designed that I send you reports of the enemy. Will you please inform me on this point. I have also been sending reports direct to General Hardee in addition to reporting to you. Is that necessary whilst reporting to you?

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

[JANUARY 20, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1118.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Near McTier's, January 20, 1865.

Brigadier-General HUMES,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The enemy in large force are at Pocotaligo Station—two army corps. A prisoner taken to-day reports that the other forces are coming by land from Savannah, and is under the impression that they arrived at Coosawhatchie last night. Up to this time very little cavalry about Pocotaligo. They have not attempted to advance, except a few miles for the purpose of foraging, in which they have been very unsuccessful, as the country is stripped of everything. They always retire at night to the railroad. To-day they advanced a regiment of infantry four or five miles up this road—the Salkehatchie road; they were met and checked by my regiments. I lost one man, and took one prisoner, first lieutenant of Thirty-second Ohio Infantry. He reports that this force was put in position to protect the left flank of an attacking column, which went down to Salkehatchie bridge. Heavy infantry firing has been going on in that direction all day, of which we don't know the results. Citizens who conversed with the enemy during their advance to-day inform me that they were told by the officers that their whole army would advance up this road to-morrow en route for Charleston, after taking which they intended to go on to Richmond. Just below my camp is a very strong position, where I can hold them in check for many hours. I have about 300 men for duty; with 2,000 they could be checked here for several days.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION,
Hickory Hill, January 21, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of Major-General Wheeler. Send Harrison's brigade to Colcock, with a section of artillery, immediately. My other brigade will go to where Lewis is situated.

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS IVERSON'S DIVISION,
January 20, 1865.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to state all quiet in my immediate front this morning. No report from Lieutenant-Colonel Harris since my last dispatch. General Ferguson has not reported yet. I have Colonel Hawkins across the Ogeechee till his arrival. Fifty-one negroes, picked up at different times within the last three or four days making their way toward the enemy, have been sent to the rear.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED IVERSON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Altamaha, January 20, 1865.

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding, &c.:

Since writing I have information from a very reliable source that Kilpatrick is camped at the Little Ogeechee, nine miles this side of Savannah; that he has four brigades; that Kilpatrick claims to have 2,600 men in each, though he thinks this is overrated, and that 1,500 or 2,000 to each is enough. His opinion is that they will move speedily, in a few days; that vigorous preparations are making for an active campaign. He is of opinion that the move will be on Southwest Georgia, and not on Carolina. I do not think it prudent to give the name in a dispatch; but I know the man is true and I have much confidence in his judgment.

Very respectfully,

H. K. McCOY,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Augusta, January 20, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Your note of the 18th instant received to-day. There are now no prisoners in the custody of the provost-marshal belonging to your command, all having been forwarded. The city authorities have notified me that they cannot longer feed the eighty nine confined in the jail, and I have written to General Hardee to know what is to be done with them. General D. H. Hill is here and in command of the country from Branchville to Millen. Please inform me in your next whether you have the key to the last cipher. I may find it necessary to write you some things which ought not to risk capture.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. D. FRY,
Brigadier-General, &c.

AUGUSTA, *January 20, 1865.*
(Received 1.40 o'clock 21st.)

General S. COOPER:

I am here in obedience to your orders. General D. H. Hill is in command by order of General Hardee, and I have nothing to do. Have written you fully by private hands on subject of my duties at Macon.

HOWELL COBB,
Major-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 20, 1865.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: Referring to my application for an extension of leave of absence, which was granted to me in paragraph LI, Special Orders, No. 4, current series, from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, I have respectfully to request that when the extension shall have expired, or it may be necessary to place me upon duty, that it may not be under the command of General G. T. Beauregard. My reasons for this appli-

cation are that that officer has on one occasion at least avowed personal motives of hostility as a reason for interfering with my official position, and I have good reason to fear that his action in reference to myself in other cases has been from similar motives. I have now been in this service since the commencement of this war, much of the time in responsible position. During that time I have seen many juniors promoted over me for reasons which I did not understand and for which I did not inquire. But I respectfully suggest that length of service forms some ground for a claim for immunity from a position where the public service is more than likely to be interfered with by action based on the part of the superior on motives of a personal character.

I do not believe that any service of mine in such position can be beneficial to the public good or our cause, and I therefore earnestly and respectfully renew the request that I may not be ordered to serve under the command of General G. T. Beauregard.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. RIPLEY,
Brigadier-General, Provisional Army, C. S.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Columbia, S. C., February 13, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded.

Brigadier-General Ripley is active, energetic, intelligent, ambitious, cunning, and fault-finding. He complains of every commanding officer he has served under, and has quarreled (or had difficulties) with almost every one of his immediate subordinate commanders since his promotion to his present rank in 1861. He obeys orders only so far as they suit his purposes, provided, by disobeying them, he does not incur the risk of a court-martial, which, however, he does not much fear, trusting to his intelligence and ability to get clear of the consequences thereof.

I am informed by an officer of my staff that he heard General Ripley say, in January last, at Charleston, that "I'll be d——d if I obey the order sending me to Hood's army," or words to that effect. I therefore must insist on his being made to obey that order and suffer the consequences of having disobeyed it so long (since December 23, 1864). After his trial and acquittal, if acquitted, I will readily approve his application to be transferred to a brigade serving in the field beyond the limits of my command, for I will consider myself fortunate to be rid of such an element of discord.

I recommended General Ripley for promotion when I was in command of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida on account of his zeal, activity, and intelligent discharge of his duties during the siege of Charleston, but since that period his habits have become so unreliable (as the papers transmitted by me to the War Department since September last will prove) that I respectfully recall those recommendations until there can be a guarantee that his habits have become more reliable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

[Second indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 21, 1865.

General Ripley has been again ordered to report to General Beauregard.

H. L. C[LAY],
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Abstract from return of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Lieut. Gen. William J. Hardee commanding, for January 20, 1865.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.
	Officers.	Men.				
General staff	24	.....	.....	24	26	.....
Trapier's brigade	13	194	189	285	425	4
Taliaferro's division	273	5,417	5,292	6,622	9,163	16
McLaws' division	357	5,205	5,099	6,558	12,298	.....
Miller's brigade	109	1,483	1,448	1,785	3,002	6
Smith's division	169	1,103	1,069	1,517	6,450	.....
Wright's division	203	2,797	2,761	3,402	5,839	38
Wheeler's cavalry corps	685	7,008	6,813	9,410	15,428	.....
Post commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Means	36	214	213	260	383	.....
Total	1,869	23,421	22,884	29,863	53,014	64

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 17. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, January 21, 1865.*

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XXXV. Paragraph LI, Special Orders, No. 4, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, granting leave of absence for ninety days to Brig. Gen. R. S. Ripley, Provisional Army, C. S., is hereby revoked.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., January 21, 1865.

General D. H. HILL,
Augusta, Ga.:

Induce, by all encouragement and aid you can give, the removal of cotton, whether of the Government or of private individuals, from Augusta. In removing, it is preferable to place it as far as practicable north of Branchville. To promote removal and to be prepared for contingencies, make preparations to burn whatever cotton may be in the city in event of its evacuation or capture. It must not fall into the hands of the enemy.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS,
Salkehatchie Bridge, January 21, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Sergeant Paysinger has returned. He crossed the river at or near the pontoon bridge and directed his route toward the McPhersonville road, crossed it, left Pocotaligo to his left, and went down to the Coosawhatchie, which was too high for him to cross. He saw two divisions of the enemy on the march to Blountville yesterday, where

they remained until 10 o'clock last night, returning then to Pocotaligo. General Mower commanded them (from the statement of two prisoners taken) and they numbered, by his calculation, 5,000 men. He affirms positively that only the Seventeenth Corps is at Pocotaligo Station; that one division (a small one) of Foster's troops is at Coosawhatchie. The Fifteenth Corps is at Beaufort. The enemy, he reports, are tearing up the railroad iron between the Salkehatchie River and Pocotaligo Station. He captured four prisoners. Two of them were turned over to some of our cavalry and two sent to you.

The above information I regard as reliable. I send the information for the perusal of the major-general commanding.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. D. KENNEDY,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Kadesh Church, near McTier's, January 21, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: The enemy sent up this road (the Salkehatchie) yesterday a regiment of infantry, preceded by a small body of cavalry. With my regiment I met and drove back their cavalry and checked their infantry, who retired in the evening. We lost one man killed; none wounded. We captured one prisoner with a scouting party I sent out, a first lieutenant, Webb, of the Thirty-second Ohio Regiment, whom I sent under guard this morning to Lieutenant-General Hardee. He says they have in the main the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps; that Sherman is in Beaufort and the whole force will be over in a few days; that part of Sherman's army is marching from Savannah and thinks part of it has already arrived at Coosawhatchie; thinks Sherman is aiming for Charleston direct. Colonel Harrison, of General Wheeler's cavalry, has arrived to-day with his brigade, numbering about 550 men, and says General Humes is on his way here with his brigade. All quiet in our front this morning. Their movement up this road yesterday was designed, I suppose, to protect the left of the movement on Salkehatchie bridge. Please inform me whether a line of couriers has been established [between] Dubois' Ford and your headquarters. If not, it is very desirable that one be established at once, as it would save some thirty miles courier duty.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
Charleston, S. C., January 21, 1865.

Major-General WHEELER,
In the Field:

GENERAL: If the section of Maxwell's battery which was with General Iverson is now serving with you on this side of the Savannah, Lieutenant-General Hardee directs that it be sent to rejoin the battery at Adams' Run.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Salkehatchie, January 21, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: I received to-day statements from two different scouting parties, both composed of the most reliable men, who say that yesterday two divisions of the Seventeenth Army Corps, the First and Fourth, marched out from Pocotaligo with two days' rations and sixty rounds of ammunition, and came down to the river with a large pioneer force, stopping at a place called Blountville until 10 o'clock last night, when they returned to Pocotaligo. A scouting party from this force having been observed from this side of the river, I put my people in motion to repel the attack, which seemed imminent. I think they returned because the waters were rising and because they heard the cheers of our troops. I regret to add that my troops fired upon each other in the swamp, the mistake being caused by the nature of the country in which they were operating. The Federal force referred to by the scouts numbered (so prisoners say who were taken by the scouts) 5,000 men and were commanded by General Mowry [Mower]. The enemy (so a reliable and experienced scout reports) are taking up the iron from the railroad between the Salkehatchie and Pocotaligo Station. I received to-day your report of transportation, dated the 3d instant. Cannot imagine where it has been. Previous to your report of the 19th, just received (10 p. m.), nothing had been received since day before yesterday. Prisoners taken say that the Seventeenth Army Corps is, or is about to be, in motion. The Seventeenth Army Corps is at Pocotaligo, and no other; so it is positively reported. The Fifteenth is at Beaufort. A small division of Foster's is at Coosawhatchie. I send you to-day's papers from Charleston. Passengers from Charleston report that Hood is at Columbus. (*Quien sabe?*) The Salkehatchie is very high and rising rapidly.

Very respectfully,

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Lawtonville, January 21, 1865—9.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. L. McLAWS,
Commanding, &c., Salkehatchie Station:

GENERAL: A scout sent this morning in direction of Hardeeville reports that he went within six miles of Hardeeville, where he met a scout of about twenty-five men from the enemy, who told citizens they were in search of rebel soldiers who were lurking about home. He reports that the country was overflowed by the river, and the swamps so full as to be very difficult of passage; that the enemy are engaged in cutting the blockage out of the Robertsville road and the Grahamville road. A citizen who was a prisoner in Hardeeville on the 19th thought that there was at least one corps at Hardeeville, and said that he had heard drums in the direction of Purysburg, but was unable to learn from the enemy the name of the commanding general or the corps. He saw very little cavalry, but large crowds of infantry; could hear nothing of any crossing the Savannah River. Had heard nothing of any boats coming as high up as Purysburg. The scout thinks their encampment extends from Purysburg to Hardeeville; he heard of many

negroes running to the enemy. A scout went yesterday in three miles of Grahamville and saw no enemy; he thinks the enemy picket but a short distance in their front. Reports from near Pocotaligo indicate that the enemy is demonstrating upon Salkehatchie bridge. General Humes' entire division is now between the Combahee and Coosawhatchie Rivers to oppose the enemy's advance northward. I have instructed him to cut down trees across the road.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

N. B.—Everything reported quiet on the Georgia side of the river. Enemy seems to have discontinued foraging beyond Bryan County.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
January 21, 1865.

Col. O. M. Messick and Lieut. Col. John F. Cameron are announced as provost-marshals of this corps, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of Major-General Wheeler:

M. G. HUDSON,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

CHARLESTON, *January 22, 1865.*

President DAVIS:

I am so impressed with the belief that in the military operations in the next few days in this State the fate of the Confederation is deeply involved, that I am here to urge upon General Hardee the defense of Charleston to the last moment, in the hope that meanwhile re-enforcements will enable us to hold it. I am using all influence with Governor Brown and Governor Vance to keep our States together and each give its help to the other, but confidence is almost lost and hope is to a great extent gone. To restore these and rally the people here and elsewhere there must be a stand-point to which all should look as the place where the purposes and strength of our Government are exhibited. Circumstances have plainly made Charleston and its connections that place. The loss of these, added to our other losses, will spread dismay, and I fear that such a loss will be taken as proof that our cause is without life or hope, and any effectual resistance cannot be prolonged. My intelligence from adjoining States confirms these apprehensions most fully.

Give General Hardee the help with which he can oppose General Sherman and I assure you that the spirit of the people will rise again. Not to sustain him is to confirm the belief that our cause is already lost. In my letter to General Lee, written within a few days, I repeat to you what I have said. It is because I feel the fate of Charleston and of Branchville to a great extent will determine that of other States, and with it the cause of the Confederation, that I urge the necessity for aid upon you in the most impressive manner. Richmond will hereby fall when Charleston is lost. To retain Richmond until Charleston is lost is to sacrifice both. If Charleston can be saved, and in doing that the means of resistance for the whole Confederation

can be preserved, then, although to give succor to Charleston might hasten the fall of Richmond, yet to give that succor without delay is, to me, the obvious policy. God forbid that I should urge you to give up an inch of the soil of Virginia that can be saved; but if it must be inevitably lost, to delay that inevitable necessity at such a cost as to endanger our whole cause, is not to accomplish any good.

In the meanwhile let me again say to you that every hour is now of the last consequence to us.

A. G. MAGRATH.

[JANUARY 22, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1069.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Kadesh Church, on the Salkehatchie Road,
January 22, 1865—Night.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Scouts have just reported to me that they went as far as Sellers' to-day on the Charleston and Savannah Railroad, about two miles this side of Salkehatchie bridge, and that as far as they could see in either direction the railroad track was torn up and the cross-ties piled and burning. This appears to me to indicate the abandonment of Pocotaligo as a base, and that they will attempt to cross the river lower down or fall back to Savannah and move on toward Augusta. They are still picketing in half a mile of Pocotaligo Station, their line of pickets being encountered by my scouts at that distance from that station. I have a ferry established from Weakley's, on this side, to Dubois' on the opposite side of the Salkehatchie, and a boat kept on each side. It is three miles from Dubois' to the line of couriers extending from your headquarters to Broxton's Bridge. If you will direct your communications to me at Kadesh Church via Dubois' Crossing, and order the courier nearest that crossing to take them there, communication can be had between us in one-third the time via Broxton's Bridge.

Please do me the favor to have some one appointed to open the Pocotaligo and Grahamville mails and forward all letters, &c., for members of my regiment.

Please accept my thanks for several which you have had the kindness to send me. You will further oblige me by sending any letters at Salkehatchie directed to W. D. Gregorie.

Your obedient servant,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CONNER'S BRIGADE,
January 22, 1865.

Captain ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I desire to inform the major-general commanding that a working party of the enemy made their appearance about half an hour since, and proceeded to tear up the railroad. I ordered Captain Barnwell to open on them from his gun on the railroad, and after six shots

succeeded in dispersing them. Sergeant Paysinger is absent on a scout, in company with Captain Dickert; as soon as he returns I will order him to report to the general.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. S. LEWIE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Salkehatchie, January 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: I do not consider that I have anything to do with your routine papers, but General Hardee wishes you to report daily to him directly, as well as to myself, all movements of the enemy. I report to General Hardee all important information received from you, and he does the same to me. This is done in order to obtain certain information and to make sure that both are informed. General Hardee, I think, was under the impression that your reports of the movements of the enemy were to be sent via Midway or Branchville, so that if this line should fail from any cause there would be a chance to be informed by the other. The enemy are tearing up the railroad and burning and twisting the iron between the Salkehatchie and Pocotaligo. The Seventeenth Army Corps is at Pocotaligo, fortifying; so it is said. A demonstration was made to cross the river on the 20th, but it amounted to nothing. A small division of Foster's is at Coosawhatchie. A prisoner taken on the other side reports that some of the Fifteenth Army Corps have come over from Beaufort, but no prisoners have been taken from that corps.

I am, general, very respectfully,

L. McLAWS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Lawtonville, January 22, 1865.

Maj. Gen. L. McLAWS,
Commanding Division Cavalry:

GENERAL: I can hear of no movement of the enemy to-day; scouts report considerable force near Hardeeville; they also report the enemy clearing the road of the obstructions placed in the road by our forces. I regret that the dispatches did not go directly through. I have directed General Humes to have the line thoroughly inspected and ascertain where the difficulty is. Please accept my thanks for the newspapers.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
January 22, 1865.

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: A scout has just returned from Gillisonville and states that the enemy is in force at or near Pocotaligo (could not learn whose corps). Their advance picket is in four miles of Gillisonville; base

picket at a bridge, supposed Coosawhatchie bridge; but little cavalry at Pocotaligo. All scouts, if any considerable numbers, are composed of infantry. This information derived from citizen who had been to Pocotaligo yesterday to take the oath. No news from toward Grahamville or Robertsville.

Respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding Cavalry Division.

MACON, *January 23, 1865.*

President DAVIS:

I have ordered out the reserve militia, over fifty years of age, who are at home, and the whole patrol force of the State, to arrest and send forward deserters and stragglers.

JOS. E. BROWN.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 23, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Our need of artillery officers, men, and harness, is very urgent. We have twelve 6-pounders, four 3-inch rifles, two 20 and two 10-pounder Parrotts, but no men or horses or harness. If you could send me a chief of artillery and some artillery officers I would try to extemporize three or four batteries and man them from the hospitals. I have adopted the line of Big Horse Creek for the defense of the north side. It is a fair line for temporary defense, but can be turned by way of Graniteville. The negroes come in slowly; the engineers are fearfully slow and the work makes no progress. If broken through on this line, should we cross the river or make toward Edgefield Court-House? It is important to know your views to make a system of defense accordingly. If I can muster but twenty men I expect to make fight, but contingencies should be provided for. I think it probable that the rains may make Sherman slope suddenly to the south side of Savannah.

Yours, truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS HARRISON'S BRIGADE,
Broxton's Bridge, S. C., January 23, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report through you to the general commanding the result of a reconnaissance made of the lines covered by my command on the Big Salkehatchie River, reaching from Dubois' Landing to Buford's Bridge. The crossing ways come in rotation as follows: Dubois' Landing (a foot log), Toby's Bluff, Roberts' Ford, Broxton's Bridge, Rivers' Bridge, Buford's Bridge, the swamp varying from ten paces to half a mile to the run of the river on the east side. The river in most places is swimming. The swamp is soft but not boggy; could with some difficulty be penetrated by horsemen in many places; in many places footmen can cross by felling timber, which is

very thick. The swamp is low and upon an average about 1,200 yards wide. At this time it is almost entirely inundated. In many places other currents than the main stream are running several feet deep. There are blind paths which would be difficult to find except through guides between all the above points. The water covering the swamp is generally shallow—say from six to eighteen inches deep. During dry seasons the river might be easily crossed at almost any point.

Respectfully,

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

[JANUARY 23, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1118.]

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 23, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: The freshet makes me somewhat apprehensive of a gun-boat raid upon Augusta. Have you sharpshooters upon the river? I had ordered a detachment from Colonel Anderson's regiment to Shell Bluff for the purpose, but as he appeared adverse to the separation of his command I have sent a local company down. I know nothing of its efficiency. I am glad to learn that you are blockading the roads. As delay is everything to us I hope that you will prosecute the work with vigor. Too much of it cannot be done.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION,
Hickory Hill, S. C., January 23, 1865.

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: The position of my brigades is within five miles of Pocotaligo, and in three or four days the supply of rations and forage will be exhausted in that vicinity and cannot be obtained within twenty-five or thirty miles. I desire instructions for that exigency. Let me ask that you will impress upon Captain Norton, corps quartermaster, how very needy my command are of clothing, and I would inquire why the insufficient supply expected from Augusta has not reached me. All is quiet in my front, as reported by my brigade commanders this morning.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

SPRINGFIELD, *January 23, 1865.*

Col. M. W. HANNON,
Commanding Brigade, Iverson's Division:

COLONEL: I have just learned from Lieutenant Beck, on Augusta road, that two gun-boats have landed near the mouth of Ebenezer

Creek and that their men are coming ashore. They appear to be infantry or sailors; so says he. I will go down there and see what they are doing in the morning. I have just relieved Colonel Barclay.

Respectfully,

R. F. DAVIS,
Captain, Commanding Line.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH GEORGIA CAVALRY,
January 23, 1865.

Capt. R. F. LAWTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: There is no additional news from our scouts. The nearest picket of the enemy is at King's Bridge, on the Ogeechee. Our scouts are kept in front of them. I keep no regular picket near them. If the scouts on the north side of the Ogeechee watch the enemy closely, I do not think he can make a movement without being discovered in time, if my scouts between the Ogeechee and the Cannouchee do their duty well.

I am, captain, very respectfully, &c.,

JOHN L. HARRIS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 19. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE.
Richmond, January 24, 1865.

* * * * * * *

XIV. Immediately on the arrival of Maj. Gen. M. C. Butler's division of cavalry in South Carolina, Brig. Gen. P. M. B. Young, with the detachment from the division under his command, will report for duty to General Butler.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *January 24, 1865.*
(Received 8.20.)

Hon. J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

Steps were taken some days ago in reference to that matter.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 24, 1865.*

Capt. L. P. GRANT,
Augusta, Ga.:

Can send you no impressing officer. If quartermasters cannot supply you you will impress for temporary use the necessary transporta-

tion to repair Georgia Railroad. We have no authority over Georgia militia. Call on Governor Brown or on General Cobb for details from Reserves, &c.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS HARRISON'S BRIGADE,
In the Field, Broxton's Bridge, January 24, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inquire if the major-general desires me to send troops to Buford's Bridge to replace Cumming's command and First Georgia Reserves, ordered to this point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Kadesh Church, January 24, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Affairs at the front remain unchanged since my last communication. The enemy has been quiet since the tearing up of the railroad track and has made no demonstration in the last two days. His pickets, however, are still in half a mile of Pocotaligo Station, but posted so near together (seventy-five yards apart) that my scouts have been unable to penetrate within their picket-lines. A division of General Wheeler's cavalry, under General Humes, is very near me, whose orders are said to be to support me, but they decline doing any picket duty. As they have eaten out the country around here, and my transportation has been very much reduced by a number of wagons taken by Captain Lovelace, of General Conner's infantry brigade, it will be necessary for me to fall back some ten miles from my present position (in order to subsist my command), which will throw me fifteen miles from my picket base. Under these circumstances I would respectfully suggest that either my regiment or a portion of General Humes' division be sent to a position where we can subsist our troops and be more useful to the Government.

Please inform the general that immediately on the reception of his letter in regard to Captain Hanckel's wagons I sent Captain Peeples, Company K, Third South Carolina Cavalry, to carry out the instructions of the general's letter, and have heard that yesterday sixteen of the wagons passed Broxton's Bridge on their way to the general's quartermaster. I understand that he had to go all the way to Augusta, but have heard nothing from him officially as yet.

Your obedient servant,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

JANUARY 24, 1865—7 a. m.

Major-General WHEELER:

GENERAL: A telegram from Lieutenant-General Hardee placed the cavalry in this district temporarily under my command. This seems to me the only arrangement that can be made. If I am to be held responsible for the defense of Augusta, the troops directly defending it ought, of course, be under the responsible commander. As I understand it, Generals Iverson and Ferguson still belong to your division, and their routine papers, rolls, &c., pass through you, but while detached are subject to my orders. I hope that your engineers press matters better than mine. The blockading of the road below and getting a strong line which Sherman cannot break through is of infinite importance.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Stafford's Cross-Roads, S. C., January 24, 1865—9.02 p. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

Lieutenant Hinkle, of the Kentucky Brigade, has just returned from a scout. He found the enemy two miles this side of Gillisonville; he thinks about a regiment of infantry. He drove in their advance picket, and found they had log breast-works some fifty yards on the left of the road. He could not see how long upon the right. He saw no cavalry at all, no smoke or camp, and thinks they had just come out there. Major Austin, in charge of detail, began blockading the road about three-quarters of a mile this side of their breast-works, and is at work to-night with fifty men. We will continue it to-morrow. The lieutenant thinks it impossible for them to move up this road with a train, on account of the water (which is all over the country), for several days. A scout from my brigade this morning went to Beaver Dam without hearing of the enemy.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
January 24, 1865.

Brigadier-General IVERSON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: A dispatch from General Wheeler, just received, informs me that the Yankees are burning the railroad about Pocotaligo. This means a change of base, and most likely to this side of the river. It is of the utmost importance that you should delay the Yankees as long as possible, that we may be able to send you re-enforcements, and that we may remove the cotton from the city. I wish you to blockade, effectually, all the roads as low down as possible, especially the roads which turn Brier Creek. Press forward the work with the utmost expedition. There is no time to be lost.

Yours, truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENNESSEE CAVALRY BRIGADE,
January 24, 1865.

Lieut. CHARLES A. ELDER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Division:

LIEUTENANT: Lieutenant Wall, of the First Tennessee, who went in charge of the scout this morning in the direction of Pocotaligo, has just returned with three prisoners that he caught beyond McPhersonville at the "swamp," which is two miles this side of Pocotaligo. These prisoners say that they belong to Major-General Mower's division; that they were detailed at division headquarters as a guard, and were outside of the pickets with a wagon getting wood for the general's quarters when captured. They also report the other two divisions (Major-General Leggett's and Belknap's) of the Seventeenth Corps (Frank Blair's) at Pocotaligo; also that General Frank Blair's headquarters are one mile and a half beyond Pocotaligo Station. They also say that they do not know where Kilpatrick's cavalry is; that they left it near Savannah, and know of no mounted troops in this State except a portion of the Seventh Illinois Mounted Infantry, which is camped with the Seventeenth Corps; that they left the Fifteenth Corps at Beaufort and the Fourteenth and Twentieth in Savannah.

I am, lieutenant, your obedient servant,

G. W. McKENZIE,
Colonel, Commanding.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 25, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

Enemy made a demonstration on Little Britain Island yesterday. Re-enforcements for Charleston are needed immediately. Send me, if possible, 3,000 men at once. All quiet on the Combahee. I will keep you fully advised.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 25, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Mobile, Ala.:

Lee's corps, now passing through, is destitute of clothing. I shall order all to be had here to be issued to them. Cheatham is, I learn, in like condition. I will telegraph to General Lawton to make provision for them at Augusta. General Ripley's leave has been revoked and he is ordered here.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, *January 25, 1865.* (Received 27th.)

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON:

We are proceeding to execute orders in relation [to] slaves. Delay occasioned by several causes, chiefly by supposed difficulty of State action, which I do not think exists. I have been in field for several months.

JAS. CHESNUT, JR.

SALKEHATCHIE STATION, *January 25, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

GENERAL: Lieutenant-General Hardee directs me to say that he desires you to keep yourself in communication with Major-General McLaws, who is now on the Combahee, with headquarters near the Salkehatchie railroad bridge, and if the enemy should cross at or near this point he wishes you to cross a portion of your cavalry. As soon as you can spare Colcock's cavalry you had better send it to report to General McLaws on this side of the river. If you think it advisable you can destroy the bridges above Broxton's Bridge as you retire.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

D. H. POOLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
January 25, 1865.

General J. WHEELER:

GENERAL: The burning of ties at Pocotaligo seems to indicate a change of base, either to the Augusta side of the river or to Wilmington. It is of the utmost importance to ascertain the truth of the reports of the scouts.

Very respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

JANUARY 25, 1865.

Major-General WHEELER:

GENERAL: It seems to me that the report of the scout in regard to the burning at Pocotaligo is of the utmost importance, and that no pains should be lost in verifying [it]. If the thing be so it means a change of base to this side of the river or to Wilmington.

Very respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Lawtonville, January 25, 1865—7.25 p. m.

General L. MCLAWS,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Scouts from the Georgia side of Savannah River report the Fourteenth Army Corps is being encamped at Shaver's Swamp and as having sent scouts to Station No. 2 on Central Railroad. They state that loaded wagons were brought with them which were [unloaded and sent] back to Savannah for more. That the enemy say they intend moving forward as soon as the weather will permit. The boats reported day before yesterday as moving up the Savannah River are now said to be small ones, which were going for wood and provisions. They had gone as high up as Grovenstein's Landing. General McCoy thinks the enemy are preparing to make a raid into Southwestern Georgia, though he gives no special evidences as to what his opinion is based on. Other scouts think that Kilpatrick is concentrating his cavalry in Savannah, and citizens say the Yankees tell them they do not intend making any

more raids west of the Ogeechee. It was thought if the enemy did make the raid which General McCoy feared, the object would be to liberate the prisoners at Andersonville. I think the enemy will not send any cavalry westward. Scouts from near Pocotaligo report that the Seventeenth and part of the Fifteenth Corps were near that place and the remainder of the Fifteenth at Beaufort. The [enemy send] scouts daily a few miles [*sic*] Grahamville and Gillisonville, but I hear of no farther advance. I have the roads so thoroughly blockaded that it is difficult for my scouts to get through to see the enemy.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Springfield, Ga., January 25, 1865.

Col. M. W. HANNON:

COLONEL: Since my report yesterday evening scouts came in and report the enemy on the move. They were on Middle Ground and McCall roads, eight miles from here. Lieutenant Ward's scouts captured one. The enemy were moving in direction of Middle Ground road. The captured was infantry. We see a camp-fire about seven miles from here. I am confident we will see them early in the morning. From all information it is the Fourteenth Army Corps moving in direction of Sister's Ferry; some say to Augusta.

Respectfully,

R. F. DAVIS,
Captain, Commanding Line.

CHARLESTON, *January 26, 1865.*

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON:

An order received to-day from General S. Cooper directs return to North Carolina of the Fiftieth Regiment and Tenth Battalion. They are almost the only regular troops holding line of the Combahee; the remainder, Reserves, are much dissatisfied at being detained out of their own States. The withdrawal might cause the loss of that line and result in great [*sic*].

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully submitted for the information of the President.
I have directed the order to be [*sic*].

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 26, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston:

Letters and dispatches from Richmond are very urgent in regard to forwarding supplies to that point. Major Macon, of the tithe department, reports that stragglers from the cavalry, local cavalry companies, and recruiting camps for broken-down horses are absorbing very largely

the tithes of the State. He tells me that sixty men are at Warrenton, with their horses, claiming to belong to Brigadier-General Williams' staff. These recruiting camps are real nuisances. I saw one where they had been two months, and there had been no improvement among their horses. I never saw such a set of scare-crows. Citizens told me the men straggled over the country and for days the horses were neither fed nor watered. What we need is efficient cavalry, not immense bands of plunderers scattered over the country. Nine-tenths of the so-called cavalry never see and cannot be induced to see an armed Yankee. They are hundreds of miles off plundering and professing to organize. If we are ever starved into submission it will [be] through these fellows. What I wish to propose is the getting together of this organized or semi-organized mob and putting them into infantry service. Major Macon tells me that he is getting nothing from Central Georgia, as there is a large command under a man named Glenn at or near Athens consuming the tithe. I don't know who Glenn is, his rank, antecedents, or nature of his command. Ought not the attention of the Secretary of War be called to this great evil, and to the necessity of disbanding or changing into infantry this omniverous mob before they bring a famine upon the fighting men of the army?

Respectfully and truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 26, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Order Colcock's regiment to this side of the Combahee. Inform General Wheeler.

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
January 26, 1865.

Colonel HARRISON,
Commanding Cavalry Brigade:

COLONEL: I received an order last night from General Humes to co-operate with you in blocking the roads, and retire back when that was done. Yesterday when your adjutant came down below to commence blocking I asked him to suspend operations, as I had received no orders to fall back. Now, however, I am prepared to co-operate with you and will thank you to send a squad, with as many axes as you can collect. We will begin operations at Ferguson's Branch. When will you be prepared to fall back; how far, and by what road will you retire? Forage is so scarce that it would be best for us to take different roads, if possible.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

*This communication was captured by the command of Brig. Gen. M. F. Force, commanding Third Division, Seventeenth Army Corps, and by that general forwarded to his corps commander (General Blair).

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 26, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: It seems to me that the orders to Iverson to re-enforce Ferguson in case of an advance upon Southwest Georgia leave us here in a very exposed position. There is nothing else upon the line of Brier Creek but Iverson's command. Should it be moved entirely or in part Augusta is uncovered. I hope that his orders will be modified until the arrival of re-enforcements and the sending of infantry down.

Very respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
January 26, 1865.

General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: The order to Iverson to re-enforce Ferguson in case of an advance upon the latter would, if executed, uncover Augusta. I have no other troops than Iverson's upon Brier Creek. I hope that the order will be modified until re-enforcements arrive and I can get infantry upon Brier Creek.

Respectfully and truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

[JANUARY 26, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws (two dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1118.]

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*Strength of Iverson's division, Wheeler's corps, Brig. Gen. Alfred Iverson, C. S. Army, commanding, January 26, 1865.**

Troops.	Effective total.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
Hannon's brigade *a*	545	879	1,564
Lewis' brigade *b*	327	524	1,069
Total	872	1,403	2,633

a Only 410 serviceable horses. *b* Only 281 serviceable horses.

GREEN'S CUT, *January 27, 1865—8 p. m.*

Brigadier-General IVERSON,
Commanding Cavalry

GENERAL: Troops are reaching Augusta from Hood's army. It is of infinite importance that you should delay them by fighting them vigorously. The whole of Georgia is full of bitter complaints of Wheeler's cavalry. I hope that your stout and gallant resistance will redeem the odium cast upon the command. I learned to-day, to my great surprise, that there were no fortifications at Brannon's Bridge. I have

*As shown by inspection reports.

ordered out a party to-night to go down and begin work. When you cross over destroy the bridge effectually and hold the crossings at all hazards. Let me know your line of retreat, and keep me constantly posted in regard to all movements. Organize an efficient corps of scouts and put them under an officer who is not afraid. I don't want to know what citizens say, but what scouts see. We must not be deceived by false information.

I cannot use too strong language in urging upon you the importance of delaying the enemy by fighting them. If you but draw a line of battle every mile you will compel him to do the same, and thus give us time, which is everything to our success. I once heard General Jackson say that with one regiment he would engage to keep any force marching on one road from advancing more than five miles per day. If you divide your command and hold each road you can check the Yankees until our forces come up. Augusta depends upon this delay.

Yours, truly and respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

P. S.—Don't let it be known to citizens that re-enforcements are coming up.

MONTGOMERY, *January 27, 1865.*
(Received 6.40.)

General S. COOPER:

If General Hardee's telegram of the 9th instant refers to condition and conduct of Wheeler's cavalry while in Georgia he is positively misinformed, as is proven by communication to these headquarters.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

[JANUARY 27, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1069.]

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 27, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

General Hill directed to hold, subject to your orders, 3,000 effectives, provided enemy is not advanced on Augusta.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 22. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, Va., January 27, 1865.*

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XLVI. The Fiftieth Regiment and Tenth Battalion North Carolina Volunteers will remain on duty in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida until further orders.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 27, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Augusta, Ga.:

Assume command of troops as they arrive at Augusta and report numbers to General Hardee. You will send 3,000 effectives to General Hardee should he call for them, provided enemy is not advancing on Augusta. So advise him.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
January 27, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: The enemy advanced a force about three miles up this road yesterday, which we checked and held back all day. From information received it appears that this force was sent to protect their flank on this side while their [main] body went into the swamp opposite Mrs. McTier's with pontoons to try and cross the river. They bogged down and were compelled to give it up and retire. My scouts report that they have all gone back to Pocotaligo. Their force was reported to be 7,000 infantry and 250 cavalry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

I am now reporting to General Wheeler, but will keep General McLaws posted as to the enemy's movements in his front. I understand the general ordered Lowry's company to report to me a week since. They have not done so. C. J. C.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Salkehatchie, January 28, 1865.

Colonel FISER:

General McLaws directs that you make inquiries about the crossing mentioned within and return this paper by courier.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. B. LAMAR, JR.,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

CAPTAIN: There is a ford in the river near McTier's house. The most direct road is to leave the Broxton's Bridge road near Benton's house, distance one mile and a half. Path very good.

Respectfully,

JNO. C. FISER,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Whippy Swamp, January 27, 1865—3 o'clock.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have received orders to fall back and block up the roads behind me. I am now about seven miles from Broxton's Bridge. The

enemy advanced four miles from the railroad yesterday with infantry and cavalry, but were held in check at that point after a skirmish, in which I had one man severely wounded. The cavalry fell back toward evening, but I have not heard up to this time whether the infantry have retired.

Yours, very respectfully,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

[JANUARY 27, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws (two dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, pp. 1118, 1119.]

MONTGOMERY, *January 28, 1865.*

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

It is deemed essential to military operations that the railroad from Milledgeville to Mayfield be speedily finished. It is graded and the bridges completed, except over the Oconee. Major Hottle, assistant quartermaster, an active and intelligent officer, accustomed to such work, should be at once put upon it. Am I authorized to have the work done and assign him to it?

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

MONTGOMERY, *January 28, 1865.*
(Received 5.30.)

General S. COOPER:

I am hurrying troops forward as rapidly as bad condition of roads will permit. I will leave here to-morrow or next day. Am confined to house by severe cold.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *January 28, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Montgomery, Ala.:

General Hill reports from Brier Creek enemy advancing on all roads from Savannah on west side of river. I think your presence of extreme importance at this juncture.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 28, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

I will leave here soon as my health will permit. I am hurrying forward troops rapidly as bad condition of roads will permit. Meanwhile support General Hill to full extent of your means.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

CHARLESTON, *January 28, 1865.*
(Received 11 o'clock 29th.)

General S. COOPER:

Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill has been assigned to command of the District of Georgia. He has no staff. Please supply him.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 28, 1865.*
(Received 11.10 29th.)

General S. COOPER:

General Beauregard telegraphs that he is coming in person to Augusta. Will his command, as recently, extend over this department? I ask merely for information.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

[JANUARY 28, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1069.]

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 28, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. R. TAYLOR, *Meridian, Miss.:*

Enemy moving on Augusta. Hurry up all troops from Tupelo and Meridian by quickest route.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MERIDIAN, MISS., *January 28, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

Every energy is being used to push troops forward rapidly. They are being sent both via Selma and Mobile as fast as capacity of the railroad will permit.

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 28, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD, *Montgomery, Ala.:*

The enemy is moving rapidly upon Augusta. Hope that troops will be hurried up.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 28, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL, *Augusta, Ga.:*

If General Ripley should be in Augusta detain him and order him to report to General Cheatham on arrival, for assignment to Gist's brigade.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 28, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Augusta, Ga.:

Should there be bayonets in Augusta for troops arriving there order their distribution at once.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 28, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. C. L. STEVENSON,
Augusta, Ga.:

Report to General D. H. Hill for orders.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 28, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. W. W. MACKALL,
Macon, Ga.:

Please send forward rapidly all troops to Augusta.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 28, 1865.*

Col. L. VON ZINKEN,
Columbus, Ga.:

Will have you notified of departure of troops. Report each day number of troops arriving at Columbus from this place, and commands. It is reported that one-half which leave here go off. General B[eauregard] will not leave to-morrow. Will advise you when I shall be with him.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 28, 1865.*

Col. L. VON ZINKEN,
Columbus, Ga.:

Please see that troops are not delayed at Columbus. Hurry them on to Augusta.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
Augusta, Ga., January 28, 1865.

Maj. Gen. G. W. SMITH,
Commanding Georgia Militia:

GENERAL: Iverson reports the enemy six miles this side of Springfield at 1 o'clock yesterday and still advancing on two roads—the Augusta and Middle Ground. Iverson is at Brannon's Bridge. It is

important that your command support him at the lower crossings before the enemy gets there. I hope to get off from here on Monday. In the meantime assume command of all the troops on Brier Creek by my orders. Cook's battalion of 100 men, under Captain Sims, at Rae's and Godwyn's Bridges, will be subject to your orders. Several hundred negroes have been ordered down to the lower crossings. Post the troops and set the negroes to work at such points as your judgment dictates.

Very respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 28, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. L. MCLAWS:

Send all the Georgia Reserves in Harrison's brigade, via Midway, to Augusta.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

[Indorsement.]

JANUARY 29, 1865.

Captain ELLIOTT:

Send the order by courier, to ride six miles per hour.

L. MCLAWS,
Major-General.

CHARLESTON, *January 28, 1865.*

General MCLAWS:

If you can spare Fiser's brigade send it at once to Rivers' Bridge to replace the Georgia Reserves. It is necessary to send the latter to Georgia to oppose the enemy moving upon Augusta. Answer.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

Effective strength of troops commanded by Col. George P. Harrison, Jr., January 28, 1865.

Command.	Commander.	Effective total.	Effective aggregate.	Station.
32d Georgia Regiment	Lieutenant-Colonel Bacon	324	346	Rivers' Bridge.
47th Georgia Regiment	Captain Thompson	241	259	Do.
5th Georgia Regiment	Colonel Daniel	255	278	Broxton's Bridge.
3d Georgia Reserves	Colonel Moore	390	416	Do.
1st South Carolina Cavalry	Captain Trezevant	89	71	Do.
Cumming's command	Colonel Cumming	398	417	Do.
1st Georgia Reserves	Lieutenant-Colonel Neely	46	52	Do.
4th Battalion Light Artillery	Captain Earle	357	366	Do.
Company D, 3d South Carolina Cavalry.	Lieutenant Erwin	22	24	Courier-line from this place to Midway, S. C.
Total		2,122	2,229	

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Near Broxton's Bridge, January 28, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: In accordance with instructions I have the honor to report that I have arrived at this place, with the detachment of my regiment now under my command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. COLCOCK,
Colonel, Commanding.

CHARLESTON, *January 28, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

Maj. Gen. Wade Hampton has reported for duty. What command do you recommend for him? General Hardee thinks of giving him Butler's and Iverson's divisions.

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 28, 1865—5 p. m.*

Major-General WHEELER:

GENERAL: I agree with you fully that the Yankees will not, in all probability, make an advance upon this side without a simultaneous movement upon your side. But General Iverson retired so very precipitately and so far that they may be tempted to seize the crossing of Brier Creek to-day. I sent him a peremptory order not to do so, but to delay the Yankees on the other side by fighting them. With determined men in their front the Yankees cannot advance more than five miles per day. Delay is now everything to us, as we are hourly looking for troops from the West. If you are in communication with Iverson please impress upon him the great importance of checking the Yankees. This falling back without a fight ought to be stopped; it will ruin the bravest men in the world and make them timid. Nothing heard from Iverson to-day.

Very respectfully and truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

[JANUARY 28, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws (three dispatches), relating to operations, see Part I, p. 1119.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
January 28, 1865—5.15 p. m.

General IVERSON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: We have heard nothing from you since 8 a. m. yesterday morning. It is important that you should keep us continually posted as to the movements of the Yankees. Get bold scouts who are not afraid and send them out. I don't want to know what citizens say,

but what the scouts see with their own eyes. Without reliable information we are working in the dark, and may lose the city. Destroy the bridge leading across Brier Creek from Jacksonborough to the Savannah at Mathews' Bluff (I think). If you do not intend to cross at Brannon's Bridge, destroy it effectually, leaving 100 men to guard the crossing till our infantry can get there. G. W. Smith is now at Green's Cut. He is directed to hold the lower crossings of Brier Creek. Veteran troops are arriving, and we only want time to get them in position. I implore you to delay the miscreants by fighting them.

Yours, truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 28, 1865.*
(Received 11.10 o'clock 29th.)

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON:

The local organizations of Colonel Rains' men, the factories, and others, refuse to obey my orders to come out, and claim that they are only required to obey either your order or the commanding general of the department. Have I authority to command them? Am I to judge of the emergency?

HOWELL COBB,
Major-General.

[JANUARY 29, 1865.—For Beauregard to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1046.]

[JANUARY 29, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1069.]

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 29, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Augusta, Ga.:

Am hurrying troops forward rapidly as bad condition of roads will permit. I'll leave here in the morning to join you. Inform General Hardee to that effect.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 29, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Augusta, Ga.:

How many field batteries will you require with troops going to you? Should you have immediate need of them apply to General Cobb for Palmer's battalion.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 29, 1865.*

COMMANDING OFFICER AT MAYFIELD, GA.:

What is the cause of detention of troops at Mayfield? They must be hurried through.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 29, 1865.*

Col. L. VON ZINKEN,
Columbus, Ga.:

We leave in the morning.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 29, 1865—2 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: General Iverson wrote on Thursday that he was about to withdraw from below Springfield, that the Fourteenth Corps was before him. On Friday morning he wrote from Buck Creek, some thirty or forty miles in his rear. On Friday he continued his retreat and crossed Brier Creek. I have never known anything like it in my life. It has caused me great annoyance and embarrassment. The information from Iverson is absolutely nothing. I don't know whether there is any serious advance or not. It would be fatal to neglect these sensational reports and yet very vexatious to be deceived by them. There is something terribly wrong in our cavalry organization. They never think of delaying the Yankees by fighting them. The simple business is to get out of their way. Eighteen hundred men of Lee's corps are looked for to-day. Have been delayed three days at Mayfield waiting for transportation. There is the greatest inefficiency or basest treachery in our railroad department. General Beauregard orders me to send you 3,000 men upon your requisition, if there be no advance upon Augusta. I think that the movement will be upon both sides of the river and that their supplies will come by river. I need an ordnance officer very much.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 29, 1865—1 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. G. W. SMITH,
Commanding Line of Brier Creek:

GENERAL: The last dispatch from Iverson, dated 4 p. m. 28th, reports all quiet. I have informed him that you were in command on Brier Creek. When you get in position below and have re-enforcements enough to hold the crossings I think that you had better throw Iverson across the creek and push him down nearer the enemy. It is important to keep the telegraph line to Millen covered, as it is our only line. I

will leave here to-morrow, or at farthest Wednesday. Should anything exciting occur will come down at once. Please keep me apprised of all changes. There is a courier-line from here to Green's Cut, and there ought to be one from there to Iverson's headquarters. His jump of forty miles in retreat is the event of the war.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 29, 1865.*

General G. W. SMITH:

GENERAL: Your note by Major Williford has been received. In regard to your want of transportation, I have only to plead my absence and belief that you and General Fry had arranged that matter. I have sent an order through you appointing Capt. Philip Lewis brigade quartermaster of all the transportation on Brier Creek. As I learn that Iverson has a surplusage of wagons, and as you are in charge of the front you can appropriate as many as you need. In regard to your being in a pocket, the line of Brier Creek was selected by General Beauregard and not by myself. You were sent to the lower crossings for two reasons. First, that no other troops were on hand to be sent to those points; and second, that the Western troops might be kept in hand to be thrown across to Hardee's assistance in accordance with Beauregard's direction. I can't see how any other disposition could be made. Nine hundred men under Colonel Coltart have been sent up to Green's Cut with orders to report to you. When there are men enough on the line to hold it Iverson ought to be thrown across the creek to guard our right flank and the telegraph line.

Very respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

JANUARY 29, 1865.

General MCLAWS:

SIR: I found it impossible to cross the river below the railroad, so I came back and crossed the same night at the old bridge with a party detailed to burn it. Yesterday and last night I went to McPhersonville and as far as the Coosawhatchie Swamps and find that the enemy still front us as they did a week ago. They moved up with a large force on the road leading from Pocotaligo to our pontoon bridge on Thursday last, carried a quantity of pontoons with them, apparently intending to cross, but from high water they returned to their old camps near Pocotaligo about midnight of the same day, and there they are yet. I, with my party (save the bearer of this), will remain on this side of the river and watch their movements and report promptly.

T. M. PAYSINGER,
Sergeant.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 29, 1865—10 a. m.*

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I heard last night from General Iverson. He wrote from Brannon's Bridge on Brier Creek. He had come back at a single

bound from below Springfield to Brier Creek. How is the enemy to be delayed by such operations? How are we to get information of his movements? I have known nothing in the war so remarkable as this movement. Surely it is the duty of the cavalry to delay and harass the enemy, and if this be not done the most serious disasters may and, in fact, must occur.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 29, 1865.*

Brigadier-General IVERSON, *Commanding Cavalry:*

GENERAL: Your communication of yesterday, hour not named, has just been received. Please name the hour in all dispatches. Your precipitate retirement under the belief of your being pressed by overwhelming numbers has led to much embarrassment. No ground ought to have been lost without being disputed, as delay is everything to us. Major-General Smith has gone down to Brier Creek and has been ordered to assume command until I go to the front. Veteran troops will soon be in position on that line and then you must be thrown across the creek on our right flank. You must now guard the telegraph line by Millen; it is the only communication with the west and south. You must keep scouts on the river to watch it. The flag of truce was a mere Yankee trick. I have always forbidden its reception unless coming from the commanding general. The Yankees wished to find out who was in command. The engineers with negro force have been sent to the lower crossings. The fortifications must be according to their views.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Augusta, January 29, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER, *Commanding Cavalry:*

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 28th just received. From all we can learn we are somewhat puzzled to know what Sherman is about. The movement on this side does not develop itself. Part of Lee's corps arrived to-day and the remainder reported on the way. General Hill has returned from Brier Creek, but will probably go down again soon. General Beauregard will be here in three or four days.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. D. FRY,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FERGUSON'S BRIGADE,
Mount Vernon, Montgomery County, Ga., January 29, 1865.

First Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor respectfully to report that in pursuance of and obedience to paragraph VII, Special Orders, No. 9, from corps headquarters, dated Grahamville, S. C., January 13, 1865, I moved my brigade from Robertsville to Augusta; thence to this point, via Pageley's Bridge on Brier Creek, Fenn's Bridge over the Ogeechee, and Long's Bridge on Williamson's Swamp Creek. This was the only

route at all practicable, in consequence of the recent heavy rains and the swollen condition of every river and creek in this portion of the State. It has been very difficult to procure forage and subsistence. On reaching this point, represented by the people above to be abundant, I have been able to get a half ration of corn. Beyond this place in the direction of the Gulf road and toward Savannah there is nothing. The accounts from my scouts and intelligent citizens agree that I cannot subsist one day in any portion of this territory. The Yankees have taken everything from the country between the Ohoopee and Altamaha Rivers and Savannah, extending their foraging expeditions along the Ogeechee to the center of Bulloch County.

Scouts report Lieutenant-Colonel Harris at Nail's Ferry, and General McCoy at railroad bridge; both on the other side of the Altamaha River. There is one company of State militia at Walthourville. This disposition of the troops must have been necessitated by the entire want of forage or subsistence between the Ogeechee and Altamaha south and east of line before mentioned, as, from all accounts, the small company at Walthourville will not be able to subsist where it is.

Finding it impossible to subsist my command or forage my horses along or near the line of operations stated in Special Orders, No. 9, I have determined to move, and will move across the Oconee at Dublin and camp on Turkey Creek, where I can remain several days, until I can hear from you. I will put myself in communication with the troops south of me, and scout the desolate country between this point and Savannah, so that I may be able to ascertain speedily the movement of the enemy and pursue all raiding parties moving west. I omitted to say there is no crossing of the Altamaha below this place at present on account of high water. Citizens report that the railroad below is being torn up to build the road from Thomasville to Albany.

Awaiting further orders, I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. FERGUSON,
Brigadier-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., January 30, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Montgomery, Ala.:

General Gilmer reports railroad from Milledgeville to Mayfield could not possibly be finished under four or five months, much of it not being graded, and work very heavy. All means at command had better be directed to completion of connection from West Point to Atlanta.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 30, 1865—3 p. m.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:
(Care General Cobb, Macon, Ga.)

The following, addressed to the general, just received:

MERIDIAN, *January 30, 1865.*

Sherman's movements render a victory necessary to us at once and it will require all our means to insure it. I can resist a raid without Stewart's corps and cannot fight a battle with it against an army; and French's division is very weak, but will

enable me to fully garrison Mobile and Choctaw Bluff. The remainder of the corps should go east at once to insure success there. We can thus save Lee's communications, raise the siege of Mobile, should it be invested, or be prepared to meet Thomas when he advances in the spring. Last of Cheatham's corps, except furloughed men, will leave here on Wednesday. I find upon inquiry that his Tennessee division has been furloughed until 10th and Brantly's and Sharp's brigades until the 12th proximo. Will report further about artillery.

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

OPELIKA, ALA., *January 30, 1865.*

Brigadier-General MACKALL,
Macon, Ga.:

Hold Palmer's battalion in readiness to move on General D. H. Hill's order. General Beauregard desires that you will procure 150 horses for the artillery now en route. If they cannot be had from Majors Smith and Wheeler's horse camp at Macon they must be impressed. General Beauregard will reach Macon to-morrow.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 30, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. W. W. MACKALL,
Macon, Ga.:

If any difficulty occurs about railroad transportation of troops let them march. It is important they should move forward without delay.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 30, 1865.*

COMMANDANT OF POST AT MAYFIED, GA.:

If any difficulty occurs in transportation of troops let them march to Camak and meet cars. If difficulty should occur there, let them march to Augusta. The object is expedition.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 30, 1865.*

Maj. E. H. EWING,
Inspector Field Transportation, Selma, Ala.:

Have you a train for pontoon ready? Required in Georgia.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 30, 1865.*

Col. G. W. BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

Major Ewing telegraphs pontoon train prepared at Selma is being sent to Demopolis. Captain Morris, chief engineer, has charge.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 30, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Beware enemy from Savannah does not cross river and turn Combahee line above Barnwell Court-House.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

(Same to Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, Augusta, Ga.)

CHARLESTON, *January 30, 1865.*

General S. COOPER:

The following dispatch has just been received from Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, Augusta:

Nine hundred men from the West have arrived; one-half deserted.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
January 30, 1865.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

GENERAL: Iverson's scouts think that the Yankee force which came up on this side and supposed to be the Fourteenth Army Corps has all crossed at Sister's Ferry. I don't know his scouts and how reliable they may be. The troops are coming in very slowly. How happens it that whenever there is an emergency for the movement of troops there is something wrong with railroads? Is it because superintendents and employés are nearly all Yankees? So I think. The troops arriving are destitute of everything—arms, clothing, &c. Nine hundred arrived out of 1,600 started; the rest deserted.

I send you order of Sherman. What action should be taken in the premises? An ordnance officer and inspector-general are much needed.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
[*January 30, 1865.*]

General G. W. SMITH,
Godwyn's Bridge:

GENERAL: General Deas, with 900 men, is at Green's Cut. He has been directed to report to you. As he is without transportation he will have to be kept near the railroad, and so with all the troops sent down. It will be necessary to send out scouts to the river to watch a crossing above you. Mathews' Bluff is the lowest point occupied by us on the river. Wheeler reports the occupation of Robertsville yesterday. I wish you would inquire of Iverson whether the ferry-boat at Hudson's Ferry has been destroyed The negro force ought to be guarded. They are deserting rapidly. The troops ought also to be put to work.

Very respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 30, 1865—8 p. m.*

General STEVENSON:

GENERAL: I think that there can be no doubt that Sherman is advancing in earnest and that the affair will be decided this week. I hope that you will keep your troops in motion and not wait transportation by rail. The railroad is entirely in the hands of Yankees and they delay every movement. More than half of the two advanced brigades have deserted. Can nothing be done to prevent it? I send this by an officer with the hope that the troops may be hurried up.

Very respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 30, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. HOWELL COBB,
Macon, Ga.:

General Beauregard left this morning for Macon.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH TENNESSEE CAVALRY,
In the Field, One Mile and a half from McTier's Mill,
January 30, 1865—11.30 a. m.

Major-General MCLAWS:

GENERAL: The enemy advanced early this morning (infantry and cavalry) and drove my pickets from the McTier's Mill Creek; have crossed and are advancing. No artillery yet discovered.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. F. ANDERSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Fourth Tennessee Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS HARRISON'S BRIGADE,
Broxton's Bridge, January 30, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Reports from the front represent the enemy as skirmishing with our cavalry (Wheeler's) at McTier's Mill at 10 a. m. General Wheeler has a regiment in the position where Colonel Colcock was, only farther back this way. I have sent a squadron of Colonel Colcock's regiment with his section of horse artillery to lower crossing of Whippy Swamp; will take up the other crossings as enemy advances.

Respectfully,

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

LATER—3.30 p. m.

Our cavalry have fallen back; enemy this side the mill, with cavalry and infantry.

HARRISON,
Colonel.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 30, 1865—11 a. m.*

Major-General WHEELER, *Commanding Cavalry:*

GENERAL: I send you reports of scouts in regard to the crossing at Sister's Ferry. The troops from the West are coming in very slowly. Hope that you can delay these Yankees till they arrive. If no movement on this side will send everything to your support. Hope that your fortifications are pressed vigorously forward.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Augusta, January 30, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER, *Commanding Cavalry:*

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 29th instant just received. I thank you for the prompt information furnished of the movements of enemy. Troops are now arriving from the West and I hope we will soon have force enough to meet the enemy on either side of the river. Have no doubt you will hold them in check long enough for General Hill to get them in position. General Beauregard left Montgomery this morning for Augusta and ought to be here on Thursday. The good people of Augusta are much exercised in relation to the rumors of negotiations for peace. I believe that Hunter, Stephens, and Campbell have been sent on some mission to the Yankee Government; but what they go to propose has not transpired. If we could whip Sherman it would help the cause wonderfully just now.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. D. FRY,
Brigadier-General.

[JANUARY 30, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1121.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Lawtonville, January 30, 1865—3.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. L. MCLAWS, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: A prisoner captured at 1 o'clock this evening says the Twentieth Corps [is at Rob]ertsville, and that the [rumor in] camp is that they are going to Augusta and that they will remain in camp to-day to learn what force there is in their immediate front and cut out the obstructions.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
January 30, 1865.

Division, brigade, and regimental commanders will see that all cotton is rolled out of the gin-houses and burned as they fall back.

By order of Major-General Wheeler:

D. C. JENKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS IVERSON'S DIVISION,
January 30, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: The enemy are still crossing the Savannah River. The Twentieth Corps is now crossing at a point a little above Sister's Ferry; the prisoners say not at Sister's Ferry in consequence of torpedoes at that point. They further say that the Twentieth Corps was crossing the river at a point below Sister's Ferry but stopped on account of some accident happening to their pontoons. When it occurred, an entire regiment, they state, was lost.

Very respectfully, lieutenant, your obedient servant,
ALFRED IVERSON,
Brigadier-General.

These statements are made by prisoners belonging to the Twentieth Corps.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
Augusta, January 30, 1865—1 p. m.

Brigadier-General IVERSON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Your falling back so far did seem to me most extraordinary. You may have been justified by the nature of the country, but I still think that, under your instructions, you committed an error. It certainly has caused me no little annoyance and embarrassment. However, as I knew you personally, and did not know your command, I thought it must be due to the material with which you were dealing. In this I may have done them, as well as you, injustice. If so, I am sorry for it. But my experience with the cavalry in this war has not been favorable, and I have made no secret of my opinion. I hope to be on Brier Creek this week and to have an interview with you.

Very respectfully,
D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *January 31, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

Following received:

RICHMOND, *January 30, 1865.*

Major-General SMITH:

All the available resources in materials and labor should be first applied to completion of Georgia and the West Point railroads. Nothing should delay these.

J. F. GILMER,
Major-General.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MACON, GA., *January 31, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. J. R. WADDY,
Chief Ordnance Officer:

COLONEL: I am instructed by General Beauregard to direct that you remain for the present in Macon and see that the batteries of the Army of Tennessee are properly supplied and equipped. When done you will order them at once to Augusta, moving by rail as far as practicable.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MACON, GA., *January 31, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. W. W. MACKALL,
Commanding, &c., Macon, Ga.:

GENERAL: Lieut. Col. J. R. Waddy has been ordered to remain in Macon for the purpose of supplying the wants of the batteries at this place and those of the Army of Tennessee passing through. Please afford them every facility to accomplish this end.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
Augusta, January 31, 1865.

General HARDEE:

GENERAL: I have just got a telegram from General Cobb that Palmer's battalion of artillery, which had been ordered here, is without horses. Hood's troops are coming without artillery. I have improvised two batteries of four guns each. It is all I have. We cannot hold the line of Brier Creek without more artillery.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
January 31, 1865.

Maj. NORMAN W. SMITH,
Quartermaster, Augusta, Ga.:

MAJOR: I am directed by the major-general commanding [to say] that Colonel Edmonds informs him that the troops are greatly delayed at Milledgeville for want of transportation; that the wagons at the time of starting of his (Colonel Edmonds') brigade were then one day behind time, and had not then arrived. Furthermore, that the wagons [were] delayed at Mayfield for the purpose of taking passengers and furniture of refugees; that many wagons encountered were so loaded. I am directed to say that you must attend to this matter, and remove the obstacles to a speedy transportation of troops.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. W. MEMMINGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS HARRISON'S BRIGADE,
Broxton's Bridge, January 31, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: The following note from Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson, commanding Fourth Tennessee Cavalry, has just been received:

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH TENNESSEE CAVALRY,
January 30, 1865—12 m.

COLONEL: My scouts returned from rear of the enemy and report a large encampment of the enemy, consisting of infantry, artillery, and cavalry near the junction of Salkehatchie and old Union roads. Their encampment indicates a large force from two miles and a half to three miles long. Their artillery and wagons are distinctly heard, also drums, by our pickets. They are still busily engaged in repairing McTier's Bridge. I have other scouts yet in their rear.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. F. ANDERSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

I ascertained accurately that a heavy column of the enemy has passed up the river road, and in my opinion will number about 15,000. They have with them artillery, wagons, and Mackinaw boats. Camped on the night of the 30th about nine miles south of Pocotaligo on said road. A prisoner in the commissary department reports that they have 30 days' rations of bacon and crackers and 200 cattle to each division. A train of empty wagons went back to Pocotaligo on the evening of the 30th, and prisoners said were going to the boat landing for clothing. Prisoners report that the column advancing up the river consists of the Seventeenth Corps, one division of the Fifteenth Corps, and Foster's command, and that they left at Pocotaligo three divisions of the Fifteenth Corps. They had a large wagon train heavily loaded.

SALKEHATCHIE, *January 31, 1865.*

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Sergeant Paysinger, who came in this morning, makes the above report. He captured 5 Yankees and 2 negroes. He further states that the three divisions of the Fifteenth Corps are encamped on the railroad three miles from this place. The enemy have not shown themselves in force in my front. All quiet.

I am, captain, with great respect, your obedient servant,
E. T. STACKHOUSE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Conner's Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
January 31, 1865—4.15 p. m.

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I would like to have your views in regard to the position of the troops arriving. Two brigades have reached here and have been sent down to line of Brier Creek. I am inclined to think that one corps ought to be sent to you, and one kept on line of Brier Creek until the

movement is fully developed. It seems now to me that an attempt will be made to break through between Three Runs and Salkehatchie. If you can delay the rascals a week all will be right.

Very truly, &c.,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

[JANUARY 31, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1121.]

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION,
Hickory Hill, January 31, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: It is now evident that the enemy are going to Broxton's Bridge, up the Salkehatchie road. The force is infantry, artillery, and cavalry, I think the Seventeenth and Fifteenth Corps, or at least one of those corps. Col. Paul Anderson and Colonel Colcock are on that road, the latter as far back as Whippy Swamp, which is prepared for blockading. Colonel Colcock is ordered to fall back to Broxton's Bridge from Whippy Swamp when forced by the enemy. I have ordered Colonel Anderson to retire in the direction of Crockettville as he completes the blockading and as forced by the enemy. General Wheeler ordered me to collect my division at Hickory Hill, which I have done, except Anderson's regiment. This morning I received a note from Col. George Harrison, at Broxton's Bridge, addressed to Colonel Anderson and requesting him to delay the enemy as much as possible in order that they might complete their works at Broxton's Bridge. I would concentrate a brigade, at least, with Colonel Anderson but for the order of General Wheeler to collect my command here. Not knowing what may be the necessity for my command to join General Wheeler, I will keep it here for further instructions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS,
January 31, 1865.

Brigadier-General IVERSON, *Commanding Cavalry, &c.:*

GENERAL: A telegram from Lieutenant-General Hardee places all the cavalry in this district under my command. You will continue as heretofore to communicate information to General Wheeler; what it is important for him to know. I wish you to have a courier-line established to the nearest telegraphic station, and report, if practicable, daily; at all events, to communicate all movements and changes in your front. I send down my aide, Lieutenant Trenholm, to get your returns, statements of artillery, &c. If compelled to fall back, dispute obstinately the crossings of Brier Creek and keep its headwaters well watched against a flank movement. Have preparations made at all the bridges for burning them. I think that the lower bridges ought to be thoroughly destroyed now. Let me know the position of your whole command. If you have no men on the river place some there with orders to prevent the ascent of gun-boats. See that your system of scouts is efficient. Those men often loiter about the country, or worse,

plunder our people, relying upon the citizens for all information of the enemy they ever get. Select bold and enterprising men for this duty, and harass the enemy as much [as possible].

It is of great importance now to get information, and this can best be done by taking prisoners. It may be well to give out among the citizens, and even your own command, that my division from Richmond has reached here. Is General Ferguson your junior? If so, let him know that it is my order that he reports to you. All movements which affect Southwest Georgia he should telegraph to General Marshall, at Millen, as well as to me. If you can leave your command for a few days I would like to confer with you here. If not, I will try to meet you [on] an appointed day, selected by you, on Brier Creek. I have heard many and bitter complaints all over the State against Wheeler's men. I wish you would issue orders, upon my responsibility, to shoot all marauders.

With great respect, yours, truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *January 31, 1865.*

General IVERSON, *Commanding Cavalry:*

GENERAL: You can get 400 Enfield rifles here. I have telegraphed for carbines, but will not get them, I fear. I am gratified at the capture of the sailors. When such captures are made the names of the capturing party should be given for publication. So instruct your officers. Get men, if possible, below the transports to fire on them. The nearer to Savannah that you harass the Yankees the better. I wrote yesterday explaining my views in regard to your retirement to Brier Creek. I would be sorry to wound your feelings, but still continue to think an error was committed.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
[*January 31, 1865.*]

General IVERSON, *Commanding Cavalry:*

GENERAL: I think it important that you should go to Hannon's assistance. So express my wishes to General Smith. Another brigade has gone up to Green's Cut and another (strong) goes up in the morning. I hope that Hannon will supply his men with arms from the Yankees. There are, however, 400 Enfield rifles at Green's Cut subject to his orders.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

Artillery in Department of North Carolina, January 31, 1865.

Badham's (North Carolina) battery, Capt. William Badham, jr., light artillery.

Cogdell's (North Carolina) battery,* Capt. Daniel Cogdell, Fort Branch.

*Composed at this time of detachments of Companies B, G, and H, First North Carolina Artillery.

Dickson's (North Carolina) battery, Capt. Henry Dickson, Fort Branch.

Ellis' (North Carolina) battery, Capt. Andrew J. Ellis, light artillery.

Kelly's (South Carolina) battery, Sub-District of Goldsborough.

Lee's (Alabama) battery, Capt. Edgar J. Lee, Fort Branch.

Sampson (North Carolina) Artillery, Capt. Abner A. Moseley, light artillery.

Shaw's (North Carolina) battery, Lieut. John M. Blount, Sub-District of Weldon.

Southerland's (North Carolina) battery, Capt. Thos. J. Southerland, light artillery.

Starr's (Thirteenth North Carolina) battalion, Sub-District of Kinston.

Staunton Hill (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. A. B. Paris, light artillery.

Webb's (North Carolina) battery, Capt. Lewis H. Webb, Sub-District of Weldon.

Abstract from return of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Lieut. Gen. William J. Hardee, C. S. Army, commanding, for January 31, 1865.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.
	Officers.	Men.				
General staff	25	.....	.....	25	27	.....
Trapier's brigade	14	170	165	268	414	4
Taliaferro's division	294	5,324	5,202	6,742	9,223	12
Wright's division	203	2,783	2,754	3,395	5,832	38
McLaws' division	362	5,663	5,546	7,360	13,784	28
Jackson's brigade	38	528	522	641	822	4
Miller's brigade	115	1,441	1,398	1,765	3,133	10
Columbia, S. C.	43	191	190	251	388	.....
Wheeler's cavalry corps	678	7,079	6,882	9,615	15,677	.....
Total	1,772	23,179	22,659	30,062	49,300	96

Troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Lieut. Gen. William J. Hardee, C. S. Army, commanding, January 31, 1865.

M'LAWS' DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. LAFAYETTE MCLAWS.

Conner's Brigade.

Lieut. Col. ELI T. STACKHOUSE.

2d South Carolina, ——— ———.
3d South Carolina, ——— ———.
7th South Carolina, ——— ———.
8th South Carolina, ——— ———.
15th South Carolina, ——— ———.
20th South Carolina, ——— ———.
3d South Carolina Battalion, ——— ———.

Fiser's Brigade.

Col. JOHN C. FISER.

1st Georgia Reserves, ——— ———.
6th Georgia Reserves, ——— ———.
27th Georgia Battalion, ——— ———.

Harrison's Brigade.

Col. GEORGE P. HARRISON, Jr.

5th Georgia, Col. Charles P. Daniel.
32d Georgia, Lieut. Col. E. H. Bacon, jr.
47th Georgia, Capt. J. C. Thompson.
1st South Carolina Cavalry (detachment), Capt. James D. Trezevant.

Hardy's Brigade.

Col. WASHINGTON M. HARDY.

7th North Carolina Reserves, ——— ———.
10th North Carolina Battalion, ——— ———.
50th North Carolina, ——— ———.

Reserve Brigade.

1st Georgia Reserves, ——— ———.
3d Georgia Reserves, ——— ———.
5th Georgia Reserves, ——— ———.
2d Battalion Georgia Reserves, ——— ———.
23d Battalion Georgia Reserves, ——— ———.

*Artillery.**

Anderson's battery,† ——— ———.
Barnwell's battery,‡ ——— ———.
Furman Artillery, Capt. William E. Earle.†
Louisiana Guard Artillery,‡ ——— ———.
Milton Artillery, Company B,‡ ——— ———.
Terrell Artillery,‡ Capt. John W. Brooks.

TALIAFERRO'S DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM B. TALIAFERRO.

Elliott's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. STEPHEN ELLIOTT, Jr.

22d Georgia Artillery Battalion (three companies),§ ——— ———.
28th Georgia Artillery Battalion (three companies),‖ ——— ———.
1st South Carolina Artillery (three companies),‖ ——— ———.
2d South Carolina Artillery (two companies),‖ ——— ———.
1st South Carolina Cavalry,§ ——— ———.
South Carolina State Cadets (Battalion),§ ——— ———.
South Carolina Siege Train, Company D,§ ——— ———.
Mercer Artillery,‖ ——— ———.
Tiller's Company,§ ——— ———.

Rhett's Brigade.

32d Georgia (detachment), Capt. Thos. A. Huguenin.
1st South Carolina Artillery, Maj. Ormsby Blanding.
3d South Carolina Artillery (1st Regulars), Col. William Butler.
1st South Carolina Militia, Col. J. Griffin.
19th South Carolina Cavalry (four companies), Capt. M. J. Kirk.
19th South Carolina Militia (one company), Capt. ——— Manigault.
Young's Cavalry (dismounted detachment).
Orleans Guard Artillery, } Capt. Edward
Parker's Battery,¶ } L. Parker.

*Not Brigaded.***

22d Georgia Artillery Battalion (two companies), ——— ———.
28th Georgia Artillery Battalion (four companies), ——— ———.
1st South Carolina Cavalry, Company E, Lieut. L. W. Lusk.
2d South Carolina Artillery (six companies), ——— ———.
15th South Carolina Artillery Battalion, Maj. J. Jonathan Lucas.
South Carolina Siege Train, Col. Edward B. White.
18th South Carolina Militia, Col. John E. Carew.
Cobb Guards Artillery, ——— ———.
Gist Guard Artillery, Lieut. Theodore G. Boag.
Palmetto Battalion, Company E, ——— ———.
Tupper's Artillery Company (South Carolina Militia), Capt. Samuel Y. Tupper.
Wheaton's (Georgia) Battery, ——— ———.

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* As reported January 20, 1865. Not accounted for January 31.

† Fourth Light Artillery Battalion, as organized December 28, 1864, Earle commanding.

‡ Sixth Light Artillery Battalion, as organized December 28, 1864, Brooks commanding.

§ Under command of Lieut. Col. William A. Walker, 1st South Carolina Cavalry.

‖ Under command of Lieut. Col. Joseph A. Yates, 1st South Carolina Artillery.

¶ Probably the Marion (South Carolina) Artillery.

** One company 22d Georgia and two companies 28th Georgia Battalions, under command of Maj. J. Jonathan Lucas, 15th South Carolina Battalion; Company A, 22d Georgia, and Companies A and E, 28th Georgia Battalions, under command of Capt. Cornelius R. Hanleiter; Companies B and K, 2d South Carolina Artillery, and Company E, Palmetto Battalion, under command of Lieut. Col. J. Welsman Brown; and a detachment of South Carolina Siege Train and the Cobb Guards Artillery, under Maj. Edward Manigault.

WRIGHT'S DIVISION.*

Maj. Gen. AMBROSE R. WRIGHT.

Mercer's Brigade.

1st South Carolina Cavalry, Company K, Capt. Angus P. Brown.
1st, 2d, 6th, and 7th South Carolina Reserves, Brig. Gen. Albert G. Blanchard.
2d South Carolina Artillery, Company C, Capt. Medicus Rickenbaker.
Adams' (Georgia) Battalion, Maj. ——— Adams.
Daniell's Battery, Capt. Charles Daniell.
De Pass' Battery, Capt. W. L. De Pass.
German Artillery, Capt. William K. Bachman.
Gucrard's (Georgia) Battery, Capt. John M. Guerard.
Jaques' (Georgia) Battalion, Maj. Samuel R. Jaques.
Kay's (South Carolina) reserve cavalry company, Capt. James D. Kay.
Regular (Georgia) Battery, Lieut. C. B. Richardson.

Robertson's Brigade.

2d, 3d, and 4th South Carolina Militia, Col. A. D. Goodwyn.
Beaufort Artillery, Capt. H. M. Stuart.
Chesnut Light Artillery, Capt. Frederick C. Schulz.
German Artillery, Company A, Capt. F. W. Wagener.
Mathewes' Battery, Capt. J. Raven Mathewes.
Stono (South Carolina) Scouts, Capt. John B. L. Walpole.
Wagner Artillery, Capt. Charles E. Kanapaux.
Washington Artillery, Capt. George H. Walter.
Wilkins' cavalry company (South Carolina Reserves), Capt. ——— Wilkins.

SMITH'S DIVISION.†

Maj. Gen. GUSTAVUS W. SMITH.

First Brigade Georgia Reserves, Brig. Gen. Reuben W. Carswell.
Second Brigade Georgia Reserves, Brig. Gen. Pleasant J. Phillips.
Third Brigade Georgia Reserves, Brig. Gen. Charles D. Anderson.
Fourth Brigade (12th Regiment), Col. Richard Sims.
1st Georgia State Line, } Col. James Wilson.
2d Georgia State Line, }
Georgia Cadets, Maj. F. W. Capers.
Pioneer (Georgia) corps, Capt. B. M. Polhill.
Pruden's (Georgia) Battery, Capt. W. H. Pruden.

CAVALRY CORPS.‡

Maj. Gen. JOSEPH WHEELER.

ALLEN'S DIVISION.

Anderson's Brigade.

3d Confederate, Col. P. H. Rice.
8th Confederate, Lieut. Col. John S. Prather.
10th Confederate, Capt. W. Q. Vason.
5th Georgia, Col. Edward Bird.

Hagan's Brigade.

1st Alabama, Col. David T. Blakey.
3d Alabama, Lieut. Col. Josiah Robins.
9th Alabama, Capt. S. P Dobbs.
12th Alabama, Lieut. Col. Marcellus Pointer.
51st Alabama, Col. M. L. Kirkpatrick.

* As reported January 20, 1865; composition not indicated on return for January 31, 1865.

† As reported January 20, 1865. It is not accounted for in return for January 31. The command was serving under Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, commanding District of Georgia, who also is not accounted for on original return.

‡ Actual commanders of Allen's division and the several brigades not indicated on original return. Six brigadier-generals, names not given, reported present for duty. On January 19, 1865, Butler's division was ordered to South Carolina, and on the 28th of January, Maj. Gen. Wade Hampton was reported for duty in this department. These officers are not accounted for on original return.

Crews' Brigade.

1st Georgia, Lieut. Col. George T. Watts.
2d Georgia, Capt. George C. Looney.
3d Georgia, Lieut. Col. Robert Thompson.
6th Georgia, Col. John R. Hart.

HUMES' DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM Y. C. HUMES.

Dibrell's Brigade

4th Tennessee, Col. William S. McLemore.
13th Tennessee, ——— ———.
Shaw's (Tennessee) Battalion, Capt. R. V. Wright.

Ashby's Brigade.

1st Tennessee, Lieut. Col. James H. Lewis.
2d Tennessee, Lieut. Col. John H. Kuhn.
5th Tennessee, Col. George W. McKenzie.
9th Tennessee Battalion, Capt. W. L. Bromley.

Harrison's Brigade.

3d Arkansas, Maj. William H. Blackwell.
8th Tennessee, Lieut. Col. Paul F. Anderson.
8th Texas, Lieut. Col. Gustave Cook.
11th Texas, Lieut. Col. Robert W. Hooks.

IVERSON'S DIVISION.

Ferguson's Brigade.

2d Alabama, Col. John N. Carpenter.
56th Alabama, Col. William Boyles.
9th Mississippi, Capt. Benjamin Stevens.
10th Mississippi,* Col. Wm. M. Inge.
11th Mississippi, Lieut. Col. Henry L. Muldrow.

Lewis' Brigade.†

1st [3d] Kentucky, Lieut. Col. Jacob W. Griffith.
2d Kentucky, Maj. Thomas W. Lewis.
2d Kentucky Infantry (mounted), Lieut. Col. Philip Lee.
4th Kentucky Infantry (mounted), Capt. Thomas Steele, jr.
5th Kentucky Infantry (mounted), ——— ———.
6th Kentucky Infantry (mounted), ——— ———.
9th Kentucky, Col. William C. P. Breckinridge.
9th Kentucky Infantry (mounted), Col. John W. Caldwell.

Hannon's Brigade.‡

24th Alabama Battalion, Capt. R. F. Davis.
53d Alabama, Capt. John H. Hannon.
11th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Hugh W. Barclay.

ARTILLERY.

Maj. JAMES HAMILTON.

Huggins' battery, Capt. Almaria L. Huggins.
Ramsey's battery, Capt. D. Breck Ramsey.
White's battery, Lieut. J. L. Whittington.
Wiggins' battery, Lieut. Thomas M. Ellis.

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* Formerly the 12th Mississippi Battalion.

† A consolidation of Breckinridge's and Lewis' brigades directed by Special Orders, No. 1, headquarters Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, of January 2, 1865.

‡ But Special Orders, No. 1, Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, January 2, 1865, directed that this brigade be broken up; that the 24th Alabama Battalion and 53d Alabama Regiment be transferred to Hagan's brigade, and the 30th Battalion [11th Regiment] Georgia to Anderson's brigade.

DETACHED COMMANDS.

*Miller's Brigade.**

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM MILLER.

2d Florida Cavalry (nine companies), Maj. Robert Harrison.
5th Florida Battalion (eight companies), Col. George W. Scott.
29th Georgia Battalion (detachment), ——— ———.
Georgia Reserves (battalion), ——— ———.
Georgia Reserves (seven companies), ——— ———.
Special Cavalry Battalion (two companies).
Campbell's Siege Battery, Capt. Charles G. Campbell.
Chisolm's Independent Cavalry Company, ——— ———.
Bruton's (Florida) Light Battery, ——— ———.
Kilcrease Light Artillery, Lieut. Patrick Houstoun.
Milton Light Artillery, Company A, Capt. Joseph L. Dunham.

Trapier's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JAMES H. TRAPIER.†

Ward's battalion, South Carolina Reserves, Capt. Lemuel A. Grice.
19th South Carolina Cavalry, Company E, Capt. J. J. Steele.
German Artillery, Company B, Capt. F. Melchers.
Waccamaw Artillery, Capt. Mayham Ward.

Jackson's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN K. JACKSON.

1st Foreign Battalion, Lieut. Col. Julius G. Tucker.
14th South Carolina Militia, Col. D. R. Barton.
South Carolina Militia (one company), Capt. A. J. Frederick.
Inglis Artillery, Capt. William E. Charles.

Post of Columbia, S. C.

Lieut. Col. ROBERT S. MEANS.

Post Guard, Capt. Rufus D. Senn.
Provost Guard, Capt. D. H. Hamilton, jr.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 26. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, February 1, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

XIII. Maj. Charles S. Stringfellow, assistant adjutant-general, is assigned to duty with the command of Reserves State of North Carolina, and will at once report to Lieutenant-General Holmes, commanding, at Raleigh, N. C.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SALKEHATCHIE,
February 1, 1865.

[Maj. Gen. L. MCLAWS:]

GENERAL: I have just returned from an examination of the swamp between Black Creek and the mouth of the Little Salkehatchie. I am satisfied that to cross any considerable force between the mouths of Black Creek and the Little Salkehatchie would be a work of time and labor to the enemy that would give us ample time to mass forces from the Porter house (Fiser's old camp). I believe if the enemy

* Subordinate commanders as reported January 20; not indicated on return for January 31, 1865. Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones assigned January 11, 1865, to command of the District of Florida, but Brigadier-General Miller was exercising that command as late as January 26, 1865.

† Commanding January 20; actual commander not reported January 31.

attempt a crossing below the Little Salkehatchie it will be below the pontoon bridge, pretty certainly south of the mouth of Black Creek. We now have an infantry picket near Root's house. About fifty additional men are now on duty north of the pontoon bridge This morning I moved a battalion of infantry and two pieces of artillery, Brooks' battery, to Doctor Kean's house, but after examining the swamp I ordered them back to their old camps. Captain Brooks was with me in making the examination. Captain Brooks has not yet crossed the Little Salkehatchie to look for positions for artillery at Dubois' Landing. Colonel Kennedy has returned. I refer the matters to him. The enemy made a show of crossing yesterday, just below pontoon bridge. They only developed a battalion or regiment of sharpshooters with a heavy working party. We drove them away with artillery and small-arms. I lost one man killed. Cannot estimate the damage to the enemy. Our scouts report McTier's Creek above the Salkehatchie.

I am, general, with the highest respect, your obedient servant,

E. T. STACKHOUSE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SALKEHATCHIE BRIDGE,
February 1, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Dispatch of 1.15 a. m. just received. All quiet here this morning. Yesterday afternoon the enemy moved a battalion down to the landing just below pontoon bridge, about 600 yards; deployed and moved down to edge of the river. They had a large working party with axes in the rear. We opened on them with artillery and infantry and drove them off. Our loss was one killed. Lieutenant-Colonel Stackhouse is still in command. He has gone to the right to examine the points indicated in General McLaws' note. Will keep you advised of any movement.

Very respectfully, yours,

C. R. HOLMES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—The enemy are picketing in front of the Second Regiment, between the country and railroads.

HEADQUARTERS BROXTON'S BRIDGE,
February 1, 1865.

General HUMES,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: I wish you to cross Whippy Swamp as soon as possible and put yourself in front of the enemy, opposing his advance whenever practicable, reporting constantly the position of the enemy, and your own. Colonel Colcock's cavalry will be under your orders until the special instructions which accompany this are carried out.

Very respectfully,

L. McLAWS,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Should you hear of the enemy crossing the Salkehatchie you will cross also and retard his advance.

L. McLAWS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION CAVALRY,
February 1, 1865.

Major-General MCLAWS,
Commanding Broxton's Bridge:

GENERAL: The enemy are pushing a column of cavalry rapidly up the Augusta road, running up the east bank of the Coosawhatchie. They are now three miles above McBride's Bridge. This is the reason why I did not retire toward Broxton's Bridge.

Very respectfully, &c.

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Lawtonville, S. C., February 1, 1865.

Captain POWELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

We have not a word from the enemy. Our pickets were ordered to scout well out at daylight. Captain Hubbard is down in vicinity of Gillisonville, and should have reported before this, but has not. Colonel McLemore informs me he neglected to instruct the pickets to send couriers back often. I am just starting out to where we are blockading the roads. Should I learn anything, will report it.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

GENERAL: In examining the country between Charleston and Savannah, and the South Carolina Railroad from Jacksonborough to Pocotaligo, on the former, and from Ridgeville to Branchville and Midway on the latter, one cannot but be struck with the facilities offered to an enemy threatening the South Carolina Railroad by the directness with which the southern part of the Edisto, the Salkehatchie, or Combahee, and the Ashepoo Rivers run from one to the other of these railroads.

An enemy marching on this section from the sea toward the South Carolina Railroad would have fine direct roads, and his progress would not be delayed by any of the swamps with which the country seems to be filled were it not that the upper portion of the Edisto runs in an almost easterly direction until turned sharply toward the south by a marl bluff at Gioham's Ferry, thus affording a fine line for defense, some six or eight miles from the railroad and parallel to it. It would be of the highest importance for an officer operating in this country to note well the difference of effort required in moving to or from an enemy directly up or down the country, or across it from east to west or from west to east. In the latter case swamps and causeways would be of constant occurrence; in the former case he would meet none. An enemy, for instance, who should march up the right bank of the Combahee, and then try to cross the headwaters of the Salkehatchie going east, would find the first part of the road perfectly free from natural difficulties and the last part of it so full of them as to be impracticable, if any opposition was offered to his march. The same is true of all of this country, excepting the pine barren portion of it north of Walterborough, which is perfectly open, except here and there a gall

or bay, and the small streams with sandy bottoms flowing from them, all of which are easily crossed or turned. These facts render the defense of the Edisto or Pon Pon, Ashepoo, and Combahee, at points as near their mouths as possible, of great interest, not merely in view of the Savannah railroad and our communications with that city, but in view of the South Carolina Railroad, and the entire railroad communication between the east and west of the sea-board of the Confederacy.

An enterprising enemy, well led, entering the country between the Edisto and Combahee, could easily protect his flanks by guarding the few crossings through their swamps. He would occupy a central position as against the troops now guarding the Savannah railroad, who would find it difficult to unite. He would directly threaten to South Carolina Railroad, and indirectly Charleston.

Against an enemy passing up the road from Willstown to Ridgeville determined resistance should be offered at Ball's Swamp on a line with Caw Caw. This position is not particularly strong, and there is, therefore, the more need of work to make it so, but the country in the rear of it and Caw Caw is exactly adapted for troops resolute to remain and operate on the flanks of an army which having forced Ball's Swamp should still press on to Ridgeville. I do not know of any better field for the display of talents for this kind of warfare here required than this portion of Saint Paul's offers. Officers and men must, however, previously study the ground, or it would be no better for them than for their enemies.

If I might make a suggestion, it would be that the troops in Saint Paul's should not retire directly before an enemy, but, remaining to attack his flank and break up his line of communication, should leave the foe to be met in front coming from the line of the South Carolina Railroad. At Doctor Harllee's, just above Gioham's Ferry, a good position offers. The river road here forks, one branch for Ridgeville and one crossing the bridge over Four-Hole Swamp for Orangeburg. The bridge should be strengthened, and the lumber necessary is just at hand. Work should be done here, as the enemy are met in front so far as the road is concerned, and the troops here would be on their flanks should they venture to pass before them, moving to their right toward the South Carolina Railroad, which they might attempt if the country is as open as I fear it is. If overwhelmed they could quickly put themselves behind Four-Hole Swamp and hold it—few against great odds. The river road along the left bank from Gioham's to Tucker's Bridge is good, and there are seven crossings through the swamp (Edisto) from the bend to Branchville. At Gioham's the bluff is on the left bank, and so continues for some distance. There is a crossing just above Four-Hole Branch (on the Edisto), one at Raysor's Bridge on the road from George's Station to Walterborough, very important. The bluff is on the right bank, but the ground there is so favorable for, and the defense so necessary, that I would advise the occupation of the wrong side of the river, and that the work needful to hold it should be done there.

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., 15TH ARMY CORPS,
Near Hickory Hill, S. C., February 1, 1865.

The within unfinished report was found in a vacant building at McPhersonville. Thinking it might be of some interest to the general commanding, I respectfully forward it.

GEO. A. STONE,
Colonel, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Hickory Hill Post-Office, S. C., February 1, 1865.

Respectfully referred to commanding general of the army corps.

C. R. WOODS,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS IVERSON'S DIVISION,
In the Field, February 1, 1865.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: Prisoners say that the Nineteenth Corps, commanded by Sheridan, is now in Savannah, and they say that Kilpatrick is on this side of the Savannah River. Scouts saying that they belong to his command have been to Springfield. The enemy are still crossing the river, and not advancing on this side of the river. They charged and scattered my pickets day before yesterday.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED IVERSON,
Brigadier-General.

Several torpedoes have exploded at Sister's Ferry, doing some damage among the enemy. A portion of the Twentieth Corps crossed below Sister's Ferry, and it is this part of the army which has probably reached Robertsville.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 1, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. W. W. MACKALL,
Commanding, &c., Macon, Ga.:

GENERAL: General Beauregard desires that you will send an efficient commandant of the post to Mayfield, to see that no confusion and delay takes place in the prompt transmission of troops. Let him be instructed that if cars are not in readiness at Mayfield on the arrival of the troops, they must march to Camak, where they will meet transportation.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, commanding, &c., Macon, Ga.)

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 1, 1865.*

Captain PEYTON,
Assistant Quartermaster, Columbus, Ga.:

Major Willis telegraphs that Cheatham's corps quartermaster should get clothing, shoes, and blankets from you. He cannot be communicated with. You had better issue the clothing, &c., to the different quartermasters passing through with troops, as they must be furnished and there are none at Augusta.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 2, 1865.*

His Excellency President JEFFERSON DAVIS,
Richmond, Va.:

General Taylor reports that a victory over Sherman is essential, and that he can resist a raid without Stewart's corps and cannot fight a battle with it against an army; that French's division is sufficient to fully garrison Mobile and Choctaw Bluff, and proposes to send balance of corps here. I have accordingly ordered it here, with a battalion of artillery.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 2, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Brig. Gen. William M. Browne, of my staff, an officer of the Provisional Army, should not be assigned to duty under militia officers unless under imperative necessity.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

AUGUSTA, *February 2, 1865.*
(Received 12.30 o'clock.)

General S. COOPER:

Nothing new to report respecting movements of the enemy, except that he may attempt to cross the Salkehatchie, seven miles above N [*sic.*] road bridge. The Twentieth Corps at Robertsville; the Fourteenth Corps still crossing at Sister's Ferry.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 2, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

I have concluded to send Stevenson's forces to Branchville to-morrow. Can you furnish him with artillery?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
February 2, 1865.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding:

GENERAL: I learn from friends at the South that nothing but the restoration of General Johnston to the command of the Army of Tennessee will restore that army to organization, morale, and efficiency. This is my own opinion also. I hope, therefore, that you will not think it improper in me to beg that this may be one of your first acts as commander-in-chief. If I were not satisfied in my own mind that this was essential to the preservation of that army, I should not volunteer an opinion upon a matter beyond my proper sphere. I have served under General Johnston, and, so far as I am capable of judging, I am

satisfied that he is one of our ablest and best generals. He has not been successful, but you can readily see that no general can be successful if he does not receive the support of the authorities above him.

I remain, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Lawtonville, February 2, 1865—12.30 a. m.

General D. H. HILL,
Commanding District of Georgia:

GENERAL: The enemy moved up in very large force on both roads between the Coosawhatchie and Combahee Rivers. I have no doubt both Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps are there; Kilpatrick is reported there also. There is certainly one large brigade of cavalry with this column. Scouts from rear report that nearly all the enemy have left Pocotaligo, moving north. I will go in person to the front of Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps this morning. Enemy's movements now look as though Branchville, rather than Augusta, is their destination, though it is impossible yet to determine. General McLaws is at Broxton's Bridge. I fear the enemy may move up and attempt to cross at Buford's or Rivers' Bridges.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

N. B.—The Twentieth Corps will be delayed by the roads being thoroughly blockaded; sufficient force will be left to retard it also.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Fourteen Miles Northwest Hickory Hill, February 2, 1865.

General D. H. HILL, *Augusta, Ga.:*

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 4.15 p. m. 31st of January received. I think one corps is too much to send down to line of Brier Creek. The division you have sent there with Iverson's cavalry ought to be sufficient. If the rest of the troops you have were sent to the fortifications I have had built at Three Runs they would be in position to oppose an advance upon Augusta, or move around and oppose an advance upon the railroad at Blackville, Graham's, Midway, or Branchville. These troops would also then be in position to oppose an advance upon Columbia should it be made. If the enemy should advance upon Augusta on the Georgia side, these troops could be sent rapidly by railroad to Augusta, and then sent down to oppose him. If, after placing troops in position to hold the Three Runs, we should have any surplus troops, I think they should be sent to re-enforce our troops to prevent the enemy crossing at Broxton's, Rivers', and Buford's Bridges. The enemy drove us within seven miles of Allendale to-day, but they are now checked, and are skirmishing. They consist of both infantry and cavalry.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

[FEBRUARY 2, 1865.—For Wheeler to McLaws, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1121.]

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
Maner's House, February 2, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that I have established my headquarters at this point (Maner's house), near the intersection of the road we traveled this evening with the road crossing the Orangeburg road at Owen's Cross-Roads. I left a picket at the crossing west of Loper's Cross-Roads, and have a regiment on the road leading near my headquarters to Owen's Cross-Roads, which pickets also a road crossing the Orangeburg road at a point north of the latter point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION CAVALRY,
February 2, 1865.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: The enemy are now in one mile of our headquarters. General Humes moved early this morning to the Salkehatchie road to meet the enemy. He left only one regiment (Fifth Tennessee) here. We cannot stop the enemy long. General Humes ordered the bridges destroyed across Salkehatchie Swamp. This will be done, if possible. The enemy are pressing very hard. I sent General Humes a courier informing him that he could not return by way of his old headquarters. His wagon trains are moving toward Duck Branch Post-Office. I thought proper to inform you of this.

Very respectfully, lieutenant, your obedient servant,
CHAS. A. ELDER,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ANDERSON'S BRIGADE,
Smart's House, February 2, 1865—3.20 p. m.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: The order from the major-general for me to proceed to near Allendale is received. Am I to leave at once or still await the arrival of Colonel Dibrell, as before ordered?

R. H. ANDERSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Broxton's Bridge, February 2, 1865.

General HUMES,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: Major-General McLaws directs that you dismount about 300 of your men when you reach Morris' Ford, and place them in the intrenchments to support a battery of artillery, which is now there unsupported, and to hold the position.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. W. B. ELLIOTT.

HEADQUARTERS,
Broxton's Bridge, February 2, 1865.

General HUMES:

I wish you would cross the Salkehatchie with the greater portion of your command and assist in guarding the crossings of that stream from Rivers' Bridge to Buford's and above as far as possible. Leave 300 or 400 men on the other side, with orders to check the enemy as much as possible and watch his movements. Our men will cross at Morris' Ford and assist in the defense of that place. I hope you can cross at Buford's Bridge and dispose your men for its defense. Colonel Colcock is picketing, or has been directed to picket, from Rivers' Bridge as high up toward Buford's as his force will permit. I wish you to relieve him of that duty, as his force is required below Rivers' Bridge. I expect more cavalry here early to-morrow, which will report to you.

Respectfully,

L. McLAWS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION CAVALRY,
In the Field, February 2, 1865.

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I have just been ordered by General McLaws to cross my main force over the Salkehatchie to aid him in resisting the enemy; and deeming it of the first importance that the enemy be opposed, in obedience to his order, I therefore will cross my division over the Salkehatchie, leaving only a small force to observe the enemy on the roads from Buford's and Barker's Bridges to Barnwell Court-House.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION CAVALRY,
In the Field, February 2, 1865.

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding:

GENERAL: The enemy are now at Rivers' Bridge. I have fallen back, and will picket so as to cover Barker's and Buford's Bridges. My headquarters to-night will be at Angley's Post-Office.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—I have had ten or twelve men badly wounded.

Respectfully,

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

FEBRUARY 2, 1865—9 p. m.

Major-General HUMES,
Commanding Division Cavalry:

GENERAL: I send by courier orders from Major-General McLaws. To cross successfully at Buford's Bridge it will be necessary for you to

move at once, as the enemy is but a short distance below; will probably drive you in by daylight. It is of the utmost importance that the river should be picketed below Buford's. There are no pickets for four miles below that point. You will oblige by sending me a reply to Colonel Hardy's headquarters at Buford's Bridge, letting me know when you will be up, as I wish to communicate with the major-general commanding.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

MALLORY P. KING,
Adjutant and Inspector General, McLaws' Division.

HEADQUARTERS HANNON'S BRIGADE,
February 2, 1865—7 p. m.

Captain LAWTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I returned from the front after attacking the enemy's scouts at three points. I killed 1, captured 11, and wounded several. Killed 2 horses and captured 10 mules, with arms and equipments. Prisoners say they belong to Kilpatrick's cavalry, and that the Nineteenth Corps, commanded by Sheridan, is in Savannah. They also state that they are only crossing their pioneer corps for the purpose of causewaying the road to the highland.

Respectfully,

M. W. HANNON,
Colonel, &c.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 2, 1865.*

Maj. EDWARD WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster:

MAJOR: General Beauregard desires that, as soon as the troops of the Army of Tennessee shall have passed, its transportation now en route to this point shall be placed on the cars and hurried forward. Major Molloy, commissary of subsistence, has been directed to collect at Abbeville, S. C., ten days' rations for 15,000 men; at Washington, Ga., five days' rations for 10,000 men; at Columbia, S. C., thirty days' rations for 20,000 men, and at Augusta, Ga., ten days' rations for 15,000 men. You will supply the necessary transportation for the supplies before mentioned to the points indicated.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 2, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. C. L. STEVENSON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: It is the desire of General Beauregard that you render to these headquarters, with as little delay as practicable, a statement exhibiting the number of troops of Lee's corps that have arrived here and the number that are yet to come. An approximation will answer in the absence of correct returns.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, *February 2, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

President is fully disposed to do all you wish, but says you must name your two aides. Has difficulty about rank of aides and any adjutant-general's commission to Strange and Cuthbert, who parted with no position [*sic*]. Your presence would save all and do other good. President thinks you should come. I propose to leave your office books and papers with him. He concurs. If fleet has left, do ask orders to come. I know the necessity, or would not be importunate.

JNO. B. SALE,
Military Secretary.

RICHMOND, *February 2, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

Your presence said to be necessary here. Telegraph me at Petersburg.

JAMES E. CUTHBERT,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 10. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, *Wilmington, February 2, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. G. T. Gordon, Invalid Corps, is assigned to temporary duty as inspector-general of this department.

By order of General Bragg:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 3, 1865.*

His Excellency President DAVIS,
Richmond, Va.:

Three points threatened by enemy are of greatest importance to hold at present: Charleston, Branchville, and Augusta. Sherman is now apparently moving on Branchville. If we had sufficient force to give him battle, a concentration of forces should immediately take place there; but General Hardee reports only 13,700 effectives, infantry and artillery, of whom about 3,000 are State reserves and militia. Lee's corps just arrived here, and now on its way to Branchville, numbers only about 4,000 effectives. Cheatham's and Stewart's corps, averaging about 3,000 each, will not all arrive here before 10th instant, by which time enemy will probably have possession of Branchville. Concentration of Hardee's forces and mine cannot, therefore, take place south of Columbia. I respectfully urge the vital importance of concentrating at Columbia such forces as can be sent from North Carolina and Virginia. Ten thousand or 12,000 additional men would insure the defeat of Sherman and the reopening of General Lee's communications with his base of supplies. I will repair to Columbia as soon as practicable, and, with your approval, will assume command of all forces which may be assembled there. When railroad to Branchville shall have been tapped by enemy, General Lee's supplies will have to be sent via Washington, Ga., and Abbeville, S. C.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 3, 1865.*

His Excellency President DAVIS,
Richmond, Va.:

The fall of Charleston and Columbia would necessitate soon abandonment of Wilmington and East North Carolina. If troops from there and from Virginia could be sent me at Columbia, with their transportation, I would defeat, and might destroy, Sherman's army. No time, however, should be lost.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CONFEDERATE STATES,
HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 3, 1865.

Notes of conference had on the 2d day of February, A. D. 1865, at Green's Cut Station, Ga., at which General Beauregard, Lieutenant-General Hardee, Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, and Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith were present. The following was the estimated strength of the forces in and about Augusta and the State of South Carolina which could be relied on as effectives to resist the advance of Sherman:

General Hardee: Regular infantry, Provisional Armies Confederate States	8,000	
Militia and reserves	3,000	
		11,000
Light artillery	2,000	
Butler's division, mounted and dismounted (one-half only available at this date)	1,500	
		3,500
Total under command of General Hardee		14,500
Major-General Smith: Georgia militia	1,200	
General Browne: Reserves	250	
		1,450
Total		15,950
Total infantry		12,450
Lee's corps: Infantry	4,000	
Cheatham's corps: Infantry	3,000	
Stewart's corps: Infantry	3,000	
		10,000
Total infantry		22,450
Artillery		800
Army of Tennessee		10,800
Wheeler's cavalry		6,700

Recapitulation.

Total infantry	22,450
Total light artillery	2,800
Total cavalry, mounted and dismounted	8,200
Grand total	33,450

Cheatham's and Stewart's corps had not arrived. The head of Cheatham's corps was expected to arrive on the 4th or 5th, and the head of Stewart's on the 10th or 11th instant. In view of Sherman's present position, his manifest advance toward Branchville from Pocotaligo and Coosawhatchie, the weakness of our forces, and the expected arrival of the re-enforcements above referred to, it was deemed inadvisable to concentrate our forces at Branchville, and there offer battle

to Sherman. During the pending negotiations for peace, it was thought of the highest importance to hold Charleston and Augusta, as long as it was humanly possible. Moreover, it being in violation of all maxims of the military art to adopt a place as a point of concentration which it was possible that the enemy, with a largely superior force, could reach before our columns could arrive, it was, therefore, concluded—

First. That the line of the Combahee should be held as long as practicable, resisting the enemy strongly at all points.

Second. Should the enemy penetrate this line, or turn it in force, General Hardee should retire with his forces, covering his rear with about 500 cavalry, toward Charleston, resisting the advance of the enemy in that direction vigorously behind every available creek, river, or swamp; whilst Wheeler, dividing his forces temporarily, should fall back with the main portion in the direction of Columbia, checking the enemy's advance, should he follow, and hold the line of the Congaree until re-enforcements could arrive. The other portion of his cavalry was to fall back toward Augusta, covering that place.

Third. Should the enemy follow Hardee and indicate an attack on Charleston, whenever it should become evident that a longer defense was impracticable, General Hardee should abandon the place, removing all valuable stores, and hasten to form a junction in front of Columbia with the forces of General Beauregard, who would have to cover Columbia and take up the Congaree as a line of defense.

Fourth. That the infantry now on the line of Brier Creek, about twenty-five miles south of Augusta at nearest point, should be removed as soon as the stores were brought back and take up a new position along Spirit Creek, about fifteen miles nearer, and which should be fortified. A four-gun battery, with embrasures and heavy traverses, was to be placed on the Savannah River, near the mouth of Spirit Creek, and a similar one at Sandbar Ferry, both batteries aided by torpedoes in the river.

Fifth. It was held in contemplation to send Lee's corps to Branchville, and in the event of the happening of the contingency alluded to in the second and third resolutions, Major-General Stevenson, commanding that corps, should retire toward the Congaree, protected by the cavalry, where he would watch and guard its crossings until the arrival of Generals Beauregard and Hardee. In the course of the conference General Hardee expressed the opinion that it would require at least 20,000 men to defend Charleston successfully, during about twenty days, being the extent of provisions there accumulated. He said, however, that his subordinate commanders in that district, Brigadier-Generals Taliaferro and Elliott and Colonel Rhett, estimated the force required at from that number to about 25,000 men. The troops arriving from the Army of Tennessee were still without artillery and wagons. Three batteries were expected to arrive at Augusta in two or three days, but the other six, and the wagon trains, could not be expected to commence arriving before eight or ten days. The enemy moving with a certain number of days' rations for all his troops, with the hope of establishing a new base at Charleston after its fall, has in reality no lines of communication which can be threatened or cut. His overpowering force enables him to move into the interior of the country like an ordinary movable column.

Respectfully submitted.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 5, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded to the War Department for the information of the President.

If it be true, as reported by prisoners and deserters, that Schofield's corps (Twenty-third), from Middle Tennessee, and Sheridan's (Nineteenth), from the Valley of Virginia, have joined Sherman's army, it cannot be estimated at less than 54,000 infantry and artillery—*i. e.*, six corps at 9,000 men each, to whom must be added about 4,000 cavalry, forming a total of not less than 58,000 disciplined and well organized men.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

[Second indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 16, 1865.

Respectfully submitted to the President.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

[Third indorsement.]

Read and returned. The previous reports justified the supposition that a larger force than that stated within was present for duty. The distinction made by the term "relied on as effectives" may account for the difference.

J. D.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 3, 1865.*

Brigadier-General TYLER,
West Point:

The advance of Bate's division will probably arrive here to-day.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BLACKVILLE, [*February*] *3, 1865.*

Major-General MCLAWS:

I have ordered McGregor's reserves to Rivers' Bridge to report to you and will telegraph at once to Branchville to send Taliaferro's brigade. Have you any one at Morris' Ford? I will leave here in an hour for Barnwell Court-House.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

BUFORD'S BRIDGE, *February 3, 1865—10 a. m.*

Major-General MCLAWS:

GENERAL: The Fourth Tennessee and Eighth Texas, under Colonel Anderson, have just crossed at the bridge. The rest of General Humes' division was within six miles of Barnwell last night, and, I understand, is to cross above at Harrison's Ford. Until General Humes comes up Colonel Anderson, with his command, 250 strong, will take up the line

from Colonel Hardy's left, one mile and a half below here, and extend until he strikes Colonel Colcock or Lieutenant-Colonel Baker's right, as the case may be. If Colonel Colcock is to be relieved before the rest of General Humes' command comes up please let me know. Colonel Anderson reports the enemy firing at his vedettes one mile and a half below here at daylight. The vedettes were withdrawn. Colonel Anderson will send over a scout; will report as soon as it returns. Our pickets are still on the other side of the causeway. The swamp here is about three-quarters of a mile wide, very thick, but hard bottom, and water not deep. As soon as I can hear of General Humes will inform you.

Very respectfully,

MALLORY P. KING,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

HEADQUARTERS SALKEHATCHIE BRIDGE,
February 3, 1865.

Captain ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: A Mrs. Mew came over the river late yesterday evening and reports that all of the enemy opposite my right moved off yesterday morning, the larger body on the road to Broxton's Bridge, the other on the Augusta road. She reports no enemy in my front on the McPhersonville side of the railroad. Dickert and Paysinger will report fully this evening. I expected to hear something from you yesterday relative to movements in General McLaws' front. Don't fail to keep me fully advised of your every movement, so that I can know what to do. My position is perfectly untenable, if you have to leave yours, and useless. I have written fully to General Hardee for general instructions as to my line of policy in case of any change of your position, as to my co-operation with other troops, line of retreat, should it become necessary, and other matters pertinent to the exigencies of the situation. As to my line, I can hold it. I would be pleased to have an expression of opinion from General McLaws, which would be of service in the absence of a reply to my communication to General Hardee. Relative to publishing the names of Dickert and Paysinger, as suggested by the general, would it not be imprudent? I send their names.

I am, captain, very respectfully,

J. D. KENNEDY,
Colonel, Commanding.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 3, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Green's Cut, Ga.:

General Beauregard desires that you will send at once the brigade of Lee's corps now with you to this place by rail, to report to General Stevenson.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 3, 1865.

Maj. Gen. C. L. STEVENSON,
Commanding Lee's Corps:

GENERAL: General Beauregard desires that you will forthwith move with your corps, by rail, to Branchville and assume command at that place of all troops which may be there. You will carry with you four days' cooked rations. On reaching Branchville you will open communication with Lieutenant-General Hardee, at Charleston, and inform him of your arrival. You will report in person to General Beauregard and receive instructions from him.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 3, 1865.*

Major MOSES,
Commissary of Subsistence, Planters' Hotel:

MAJOR: I am instructed to advise you that Maj. F. Molloy, commissary of subsistence, has been directed to collect without delay at Abbeville, S. C., ten days' rations for 15,000 men; at Washington, Ga., five days' rations for 10,000 men; at Columbia, S. C., thirty days' rations for 20,000 men, and at Augusta, Ga., ten days' rations for 15,000 men, and to ask that you afford him every facility within your power to accomplish this result.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 3, 1865.*

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
Richmond:

The newspapers report an act passed and approved repealing the law under which my personal staff was appointed. I beg that they be commissioned in the Adjutant-General's Department and ordered to me. I would prefer seeing you in person on this and other matters, but do not feel authorized to leave here in the present condition of affairs. The enemy has one iron-clad monitor and some fifteen other armed vessels in the river, and is reconnoitering and buoying out the channel up to Fort Anderson. Our defenses are improving, but we are greatly in need of heavy guns.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 3, 1865.*

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Richmond:

Have telegraphed the President, which I hope will arrange matters. My absence from here now could only be justified by orders.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 3, 1865.*

Maj. J. E. CUTHBERT, *Petersburg:*

My presence here is indispensable.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 3, 1865.

Maj. J. W. CAMERON,
Chief Quartermaster:

MAJOR: In making shipments of cotton it is the desire of the commanding general that you shall, as far as practicable, first send off that which is stored in town, where it could not safely be burned. Colonel Jackson and Mr. Seixas will give you information where to find it.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 3, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE, *Sugar Loaf:*

General Bragg desires you to send two companies of cavalry to General Hagood without delay.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *February 3, 1865.*

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The cavalry is ordered.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS HOKE'S DIVISION,
February 3, 1865.

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have been disapproving applications made by officers for furloughs because the number absent now is far greater in proportion to that of the men. The state of feeling of our troops is such that we should guard against all reasons for complaint. The effect is bad when men see that officers are allowed to go home indiscriminately. I am induced to change my opinion about the division infirmary, and will give the matter a personal inspection if you can postpone action for a day or so, but if it is broken up the most stringent orders will have to be given relative to transfers. Will the hospitals of the city afford accommodations for the sick and convalescents? If an action should take place hospital room would be wanted, and all occupants would at once be transferred, but this we can discuss unless you desire immediate action.

Very respectfully, yours,

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 4, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Augusta, Ga.:

Your three dispatches of yesterday received. The view presented is more discouraging than I had anticipated. The last report I received from General Hardee was of the 8th ultimo. His force seems, from your statement, to have materially diminished, notwithstanding he at the time expected re-enforcements from South Carolina, and has received a considerable force from the Army of Virginia. The numbers given for the corps from the Army of Tennessee are also much smaller than I had been led to expect. You know what was the condition of affairs here when you left Virginia. Since then the enemy has received re-enforcements, and General Lee has sent detachments to Georgia and South Carolina. You can, therefore, judge of his power to aid you to the extent you propose without abandoning his present field of operations. I will, however, communicate your dispatches to him, and need not assure you of his readiness to do whatever circumstances will permit to attain your object—the defeat of Sherman. You will assume command of all the forces in the district as defined before your departure to the West; and, should you deem it advisable, will direct General Hardee to resume command of his old corps when it arrives, and add to it any other forces which may be advantageously associated with it. You will endeavor to obtain from Governor Magrath, of South Carolina, and Governor Brown, of Georgia, whatever auxiliary force they can add, and use all available means to restore absentees to the service. From these sources you should be able to obtain a greater number of men than that named in your dispatch as sufficient to enable you to defeat the enemy. You will realize the necessity for the rapid concentration of your forces, and, if possible, the defeat of the enemy at some point south and east of Branchville and Augusta. To give time for such concentration and for the arrival of re-enforcements, every available means must be employed to delay the advance of the enemy, and, by operating on his lines of communication, to interfere with his supplies.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., February 4, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Augusta, Ga.:

The Commissary-General wishes to know if he shall continue to retain thirty days' provisions at Charleston. Your judgment is desired.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

AUGUSTA, *February 4, 1865.*
(Received 8.45 o'clock.)

Hon. J. A. SEDDON:

Thirty days' provisions are no longer required in Charleston. But provisions now there will be required for troops operating in South Carolina.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

AUGUSTA, *February 4, 1865.*

General S. COOPER:

I have ordered a line of couriers from here to Columbia. A telegraph line should be established forthwith between same points, via Georgia Railroad, Washington, Abbeville, and Newberry. I am informed John Fraser & Co. have wire, &c., at Columbia. Please answer.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

AUGUSTA, *February 4, 1865.*
(Received 4.10 o'clock.)

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Telegrams from Generals Hardee and McLaws report enemy crossed Broxton's and Rivers' Bridges over the Salkehatchie, forcing General McLaws back toward Branchville. He was flanked on both sides. Fighting was sharp at Rivers' Bridge. General Hardee has made dispositions to hold railroad as long as possible, but says will not be able to hold it much longer.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

AUGUSTA, *February 4, 1865.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Reports from Generals Wheeler and Iverson of yesterday indicate that the Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps have passed the Savannah River at Sister's Ferry, but that portions of them are still this side, as Iverson, in a skirmish on the 2d instant, took prisoners from the Sixth [Fourteenth ?] Corps. Prisoners were taken who claim to belong to the Twenty-third Corps (Schofield). They report one division of that corps present. Sheridan, with the Nineteenth, reported to have arrived at Savannah, and General Meagher with the stragglers of Sherman's army.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

AUGUSTA, *February 4, 1865.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

General Taylor reports Schofield with Twenty-third Corps and remnants of Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps, that were left by Sherman with Thomas, are moving east over Baltimore and Ohio and Pennsylvania Central Railroads. Large force, supposed to be A. J. Smith's command, and other troops gathered from Western garrisons, reported going down Mississippi River. Remainder of Thomas' army, including Wood's (Fourth) corps, at Eastport in bivouac.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, February 4, 1865.

All officers and agents of the Confederate States will furnish forage and subsistence to Capt. W. A. Shaw, commanding courier-line between this place and Columbia, S. C. Issues will be made on the requisition of Captain Shaw. Any other assistance necessary to perfect his courier arrangement by facilitating the carrying of dispatches will be promptly given him.

By command of General Beauregard:

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 4, 1865.*

Maj. NORMAN W. SMITH,
Inspector Field Transportation:

MAJOR: A military necessity having arisen for the impressment of wagons and teams to run between Washington, Ga., and Abbeville, S. C., General Beauregard authorizes and directs you to proceed without delay to impress 120 wagons and 480 mules in the following counties in the State of Georgia: Elbert County, 20 wagons, 80 mules; Oglethorpe County, 20 wagons, 80 mules; Clarke County, 20 wagons, 80 mules; Greene County, 20 wagons, 80 mules; Wilkes County, 30 wagons, 120 mules; Taliaferro County, 10 wagons, 40 mules. As this mode of proceeding is at all times harsh and calculated to irritate and annoy, you will select for this duty your best officers and instruct them to proceed with all possible delicacy and abstain from all conduct which may needlessly vex and alienate the affection of the citizens. As soon as the exigency shall cease for the use of the wagons and teams, you will cause them to be promptly returned to their owners. As you are without funds and cannot proceed strictly according to the impressment law and the orders regulating the exercise of powers under it, you will proceed, in the mode indicated by the law, to ascertain the value of the property impressed, and will then give a certificate to the owner, setting forth the time and place, when and where taken, the character and description of the property and the amount of compensation fixed. As far as practicable in the discharge of this duty you will conform to the orders regulating impressments. A report of your action under this order you will make to these headquarters when the duty shall have been performed. Colonel Anderson, with his cavalry command, will be ordered to you to act under your instructions.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 4, 1865.*

Maj. R. J. MOSES,
Chief Commissary, State of Georgia:

MAJOR: General Beauregard desires that you send to Washington, Ga., all the surplus subsistence stores that you have in this place instead of Columbia, S. C., as heretofore requested.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 4, 1865.*

OFFICER COMMANDING DETACHMENT OF STOVALL'S BRIGADE:

SIR: General Beauregard directs that you will repair at once with your detachment of 160 men to Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill. You will report in person to General Hill for orders.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, *February 4, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE:

Explain the causes why the cotton at Savannah was not destroyed before its evacuation.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

BRANCHVILLE, *February 4, 1865.*
(Received 12 o'clock.)

General S. COOPER:

Wheeler reports enemy moving up the right bank of the Salkehatchie, northwardly toward Fiddle Pond.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 4, 1865.

Maj. Gen. G. W. SMITH:

GENERAL: The Yankees forced the crossing at Rivers' Bridge yesterday. McLaws has retired to Branchville. General Beauregard directs that you hurry up to Spirit Creek. A train will be sent down to-night for 500 of your men to come up to Augusta to aid in removing cotton. Captain Barnes is ordered to bring up the four Parrotts on a flat. General B. wants one of your batteries placed on a flat, the horses coming by dirt road, to guard Big Horse Creek. Browne is ordered up to Allen's Station, and the battery with him must come up too. Keep cooked rations continually on hand.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 4, 1865.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM M. BROWNE,
Commanding Local Brigade:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs that you leave fifty men, under a good officer, at Rae's Bridge, and bring the rest to Spirit Creek, reporting to General Smith. The battery must accompany you. Communicate your retirement to General Iverson, and that you have directed your men to burn the bridge as soon as he has crossed over. Let them have combustible material on the bridge and everything ready to burn it as soon as cavalry has retired.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
Augusta, February 4, 1865.

Captain PARKER,
Provost-Marshal:

The major-general commanding directs that you see that cars necessary for the removal of Government stores be vacant in the morning, even should it be necessary to turn out private freight.

R. W. MEMMINGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CARTER'S FORD, *February 4, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

The enemy crossed the Salkehatchie between Broxton's and Rivers' Bridges; also above Rivers' Bridge, compelling me to fall back upon Branchville. It was with difficulty that my command could be withdrawn, as I was completely flanked on both sides. The fighting at Rivers' Bridge was quite sharp, and lasted several hours.

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

BLACKVILLE, *February 4, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Send a brigade to guard the crossing over the Edisto, on the road leading from Walterborough to George's Station on South Carolina Railroad, with instructions to destroy the bridge on the approach of the enemy. Cover the railroad as long as possible without endangering your command. General Wheeler is ordered to assist you.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

BRANCHVILLE, S. C., *February 4, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

GENERAL: I am about starting for Charleston. I have sent you instructions respecting the dispositions to be made of your command. For fear you may not have received them, I will repeat that you must occupy all the bridges and crossings from railroad bridge to Raysor's Bridge, inclusive. If forced back you will retire behind the Four Hole Swamp, where I have ordered intrenchments to be thrown up. Stevenson, with his command, will hold Cannon's and the bridges above. Stevenson has part of his force at New Bridge, which will be relieved by your command. I expect to return here to-morrow evening. Keep me advised as usual.

Very respectfully,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

Examine roads to your rear.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 4, 1865—11.45 a. m.

Maj. Gen. JOS. WHEELER,
Comdg. Cavalry at Fiddle Pond, near Barnwell Court-House:

GENERAL: General McLaws reports that the enemy late last night had forced a passage across the Salkehatchie in the vicinity of Rivers'

Bridge, forcing him back toward Branchville. Should you have received no definite orders from General Hardee for the present contingency, you will cross the Salkehatchie with the bulk of your forces as close to Rivers' Bridge as safely practicable, and re-establish your communications with General McLaws (or Stevenson) at or about Branchville, protecting at the same time the Charleston railroad from that point toward Blackville, and beyond if possible. When compelled to fall back from the railroad, you will defend the crossings of the Edisto above Branchville, operating in conjunction with General Stevenson for the protection of Columbia and the crossings of the Congaree above and below that city. The remainder of your force (say about one brigade) left south of the Salkehatchie, will retire, fighting, in the direction of Augusta, holding the enemy in check wherever practicable. It will be sent to rejoin you as soon as circumstances will permit. Continue to keep General Hill advised of your movements and of those of the enemy.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

NEAR MORRIS' FORD,
February 4, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD, *Augusta:*

Information from scouts is that the enemy are still moving toward Buford's Bridge. I go immediately to Buford's Bridge and Midway road.

J. WHEELER.

Send above also to Lieut. Gen. W. J. Hardee at Branchville.

J. WHEELER.
Major-General.

MIDWAY, *February 4, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

I shall not destroy Cannon's Bridge or any of the bridges above it on the Edisto. I leave them for you to retreat upon and destroy.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

(Operator Blackville will forward this to General Wheeler.)

BRANCHVILLE, *February 4, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

Binnaker's Bridge has probably been destroyed by Captain Kanapaux. I now will ascertain whether this is so. This bridge is above Cannon's. If it has not been destroyed you will of course destroy it when you retreat across it.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

BRANCHVILLE, *February 4, 1865—7 p. m.*

Major-General WHEELER:

I go to Charleston to-night. Keep me fully advised of the movements of the enemy. I have said the railroad could be kept open all

to-morrow. If movements of enemy cause you to think otherwise, communicate promptly with all railroad stations. Drive all cattle before you that is possible. Establish a courier line to Blackville.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 4, 1865—7.30 a. m.*

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I have been absent three days, but your dispatches have been received by General B[eauregard]. I have urged your re-enforcement. You seem to have done all that you could to check the scoundrels. God bless you and give you great success. Oh, for one week's delay.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 4, 1865—3.40 a. m.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to state that one of Captain Shannon's scouts has just reported to me that he went to-night about 12 o'clock a mile beyond Bostick's house on the road by which we fell back to-day, and that he saw no signs of any enemy. As he saw no camp-fires, he is confident there are none this side of Duck Creek. The commanding officer of the Tenth Confederate Cavalry, which is on picket two miles this side of the cross-roads, near Bostick's, informed this scout as he returned that he heard drums very distinctly on his immediate left. Scouts have gone over in that direction, but have not reported.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 4, 1865—8.40 a. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that your dispatch dated 11.30 p. m. February 3, 1865, was dropped on the road by the courier by whom it was sent, and was picked up by one of Colonel Dibrell's men, and was sent to me by Colonel Dibrell this morning. It reached me at 8.15 a. m. I have ordered General Anderson to move back and occupy the works erected by Captain Steele, and have directed Colonel Hagan to move at once to Morris' Ford. Colonel Dibrell opened the dispatch when it was found, and learning its contents, moved at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
Graham's House, February 4, 1865.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: In reply to your note dated 4.50 p. m. this day I have the honor to say that I have already sent three couriers to Colonel Crews, directing him to take position as designated by the note alluded to. I will, however, send to him again at once, conveying your instructions in full. There is a courier-line established from Barnwell Court-House to Augusta, via Dunbar's Mills, also one from Morris' Ford to Blackville.

Your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

MIDWAY, *February 4, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

Colonel Ashby has arrived with his brigade. I will cover the road from Cowpen Ford with Harrison's brigade and that from Odom's Ford with Ashby's brigade, blockading the swamps and destroying the bridges at both places. All information I gain regarding the strength and movements I will report to Lieutenant-Colonel Pickett.

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION CAVALRY,
February 4, 1865.

Major-General MCLAWS,
Commanding, &c.:

I have burnt and completely destroyed the bridges over Little Salkehatchie at Cowpen or Carpenter's Ford.

Respectfully, &c.,

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION CAVALRY,
February 4, 1865—7.15 o'clock.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: Your note of 11.30 of last night is just received instructing me to move at daylight for Morris' Ford. I will move at once.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding Division Cavalry.

AUGUSTA, *February 4, 1865—2 p. m.*

General IVERSON,
Commanding Cavalry:

The Yankees forced McLaws back toward Branchville yesterday. This will cause a move on our part. I will apprise you of it. In the meanwhile delay the Yankees as much as possible. Smith and Browne

have both been ordered back to Spirit Creek. Browne will leave fifty men at Rae's Bridge to hold it until you can cross it. Your line of retreat may be turned toward Milledgeville and not toward Augusta. If you do not intend to use Brannon's Bridge have it effectually destroyed. Avoid the pocket, or peninsula, between Brier Creek and Savannah. You may be caught in there. Wheeler, when last heard from, was at Fiddle Pond, but he will leave there to-day. I congratulate you on the gallantry of Hannon and his men.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS IVERSON'S DIVISION,
February 4, 1865—7 p. m.

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Corps:

Copy of dispatch from Captain Mastin, commanding picket-line:

I have the honor to report that Lieutenant Ward, of the Twenty-fourth Alabama Battalion, has just brought in two prisoners, whom he captured in front of Lieutenant Ingram's post. It was he who the ambuscade was fired at which I spoke of in the other dispatch. He has two men in charge of another prisoner, who have not made their appearance since he ran into the ambuscade. The result of the trip was 3 prisoners and 2 killed, arms, &c., without the loss of a man of his. Lieutenant Ward was at Springfield yesterday morning and reports no Yankees at that place. He reports the Nineteenth Corps below No. 2, on the railroad. He reports Kilpatrick's rear to have passed through Springfield night before last, he following it. Reports their main force camped between our old camp, three miles above Springfield, and the river, Sister's Ferry.

ALFRED IVERSON,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsements.]

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS,
February 5, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the corps commander.

W. T. WARD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
February 5, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the commanding general.

A. S. WILLIAMS,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
February 4, 1865.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

General Beauregard is concentrating at Columbia all his force to oppose Sherman, whom it is necessary to defeat. Can you send to him any troops from North Carolina?

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 4, 1865.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond:

GENERAL: At the request of Mrs. S. C. Lamb, wife of Colonel Lamb, who was captured at Fort Fisher, I have the honor to ask that permission be granted her to visit the North with her children and nurse. She is of Northern birth and would, no doubt, be able to mitigate the rigor of her husband's confinement, and greatly relieve his sufferings incident to the severe wound he received.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 4, 1865.*

Colonel CHILDS,
Commanding C. S. Arsenal, Fayetteville:

Have in readiness two 10-inch gun carriages, chassis, circles, platforms, with implements complete, and 200 rounds of ammunition. I shall want them in a few days. Please answer what I can expect.

H. OLADOWSKI,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 5, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster:

MAJOR: General Beauregard desires that private freight be excluded from the railroad cars until Government stores shall be transported. The road has no right to reject Government freight and assume the position that they will not receipt for it.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 5, 1865.*

Commodore W. W. HUNTER,
Commanding Naval Forces:

COMMODORE: General Beauregard instructs me to request that you will order the 100 men which you advised him you could spare to report to Colonel Nesbitt at Warren Block, to aid in the removal of cotton.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 5, 1865—11 a. m.*

Maj. Gen. G. W. SMITH,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have just received a telegram from Colonel Carswell asking if transportation would be sent to Green's Cut. I have told him to march to Spirit Creek. I wrote to you that trains for 500 men

would be at Allen's Station at daylight this morning. Subsequently General Beauregard ordered 300 negroes to be brought up. Unfortunately the superintendent did not get this order till 9 o'clock this morning. The trains went down for your men, but returned, reporting that they were not there. We want to get 500 of your men and 300 negroes here to-day. You must use your judgment about the best mode. If no trains for one party, it had better march. Please let me know if you could send fifty men to relieve Captain Allen at Shell Bluff. His mounted men are much needed.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 5, 1865.

General BEAUREGARD,
Augusta, Ga.:

My forces are, by order of General Hardee, holding the South Edisto to Binnaker's Bridge. McLaws is here. The enemy are moving slowly and cautiously, and apparently upon this place. Are there any troops at Columbia bridge? If not, can I send a suitable force there?

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 5, 1865.

General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Can I send a brigade and Wheaton's battery to take position at Columbia? I can hear of no troops there. Will the operator and instruments come to-day?

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

BRANCHVILLE, S. C., *February 5, 1865.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

The movement of the infantry from Binnaker's Bridge direct to Columbia, exposing its flank for sixty miles, would be certainly hazardous, if not impracticable. In the event I should be obliged to cross the Congaree I request that you will order at least two trains to be on the Columbia road to my orders. I cannot cross without. Please answer at once.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 5, 1865.

General MCLAWS,
Commanding:

GENERAL: Please give Colonel Henderson, whose troops I left at New Bridge subject to your command, agreeable to the order of Gen-

eral Hardee, definite instructions as to the time and manner of retiring from his position to Orangeburg. I leave for that place in the morning. I have instructed General Palmer, commanding at Cannon's Bridge, to inform you, should it be necessary to retire from it. Please give him timely notice of your withdrawal from New Bridge. One of my men told me to-night that he saw no guard at the railroad bridge as he passed, a short time before.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General, Commanding Corps.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
No. 9. } *Branchville, S. C., February 5, 1865.*

Upon being relieved by Cumming's brigade, now in motion therefor, Palmer's brigade will be dispatched, via New Bridge and Midway, to Cannon's Bridge, on the Edisto. General Palmer, after giving the necessary order for the move, will repair to Cannon's Bridge and assume command of the troops there. He will place himself in communication with General Deas, at Binnaker's Bridge, and with General McLaws at Branchville, with a view to the defense of the Edisto line. Should the troops retire from either of these places, or he be compelled to march from Cannon's, General Palmer will retire toward Orangeburg.

By command of Major-General Stevenson:

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Postscript to Special Orders, No. 9, and to a letter to General Deas, February 5, 1865.—It is of the utmost importance that the bridges on the Edisto shall not fall into the hands of the enemy, and commanders will give their personal attention to their destruction at the proper time, should it become necessary to do so.

By command of Major-General Stevenson:

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 5, 1865.

[General DEAS:]

GENERAL: You will disembark your division at Midway, march it across the Edisto at Cannon's Bridge, and there bivouac for the night. At early dawn you will move to Binnaker's Bridge, and take command of the troops at that point. You will place yourself in communication with the cavalry in your front, with a view to the defense of that crossing. Should your flank be uncovered by the cavalry or the troops at Cannon's Bridge withdrawn, you will retire toward Orangeburg.

By command of Major-General Stevenson:

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—It is of the utmost importance that the bridges on the Edisto shall not fall into the hands of the enemy, and commanders will give their personal attention to their destruction at the proper time, should it become necessary to do so.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Springtown, S. C., February 5, 1865.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, C. S. Army, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: I had the honor some time since to recommend for promotion Brig. Gen. W. Y. C. Humes and Brig. Gen. William W. Allen to command the divisions which are now under their command, and which they have commanded almost continuously for nearly a year. I have another division in my command which requires, for proper organization, a major-general. I would respectfully recommend that one of the following officers be appointed for that position, viz, Brig. Gen. Felix H. Robertson, of Texas; Brig. Gen. G. G. Dibrell, of Tennessee, or Brig. Gen. R. H. Anderson, of Georgia. I certify on honor that I think the interests of the service would be best subserved by the appointment of one of the above-named officers to command that division, than by selecting an officer from another command. All of these five officers have been wounded one or more times while gallantly fighting under my command, and, with one exception, under my immediate observation. These officers always manage their commands well in action, obey my orders explicitly, and I have always met with fine success while these officers have been serving under me. The soldiers as well as officers of my command know these officers well, and have every confidence in their discretion and courage. More than half of the general officers of my command have been assigned, instead of promoting colonels, which has discouraged my officers, which was noticed and remarked upon by General Beauregard's inspector-general (Major Bryan). I feel it due to my command, as well as to my superior officers, that I should make such recommendations as will result to the best advantage of the service. In closing I would state that most of the assignments which have been made to my command have proved disadvantageous to it and the cause. Brigadier-General Allen is a native and resident of Alabama; Brigadier-General Humes is a native and resident of Tennessee; Brigadier-General Robertson is a native and resident of Texas; Brigadier-General Dibrell is a native and resident of Tennessee, and Brigadier-General Anderson is a native and resident of Georgia. If the Department has heard that my command is lacking in discipline, or has not been as successful as other cavalry in its operations, I beg they will have the matter investigated before declining to promote the officers now in my command to fill the vacancies which now exist, or which may occur. Brave and temperate officers, who are entirely devoted to their duties, will do most to bring this struggle to a successful termination, and such is the character of each one of the officers recommended above. While the country generally and some other commands are somewhat dispirited, my command, on the contrary, maintains the highest spirits, harmony of feeling, and the utmost confidence. I trust that nothing will be done to mar in the slightest degree this state of things, which is so essential to success. Besides this, my command is as strong in numbers as it was in the beginning of the campaign in May, 1864, notwithstanding it has lost since that time about 3,000 in killed and wounded.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

N. B.—If deemed best, I recommend that the promotions be made to temporary rank; then the Department can at any time put them back to the positions these officers now hold, should it become the interests to do so.

AUGUSTA, *February 5, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

Obey General Hardee's instructions, but should you find that the enemy intends moving in force on Columbia instead of Augusta, join your command to Hampton's to oppose his progress.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

BRANCHVILLE, S. C., *February 5, 1865.*

General WHEELER:

Please communicate with General Deas at Binnaker's Bridge, and keep him advised, that he may move in time, should it be necessary. Please send six couriers to the command at Binnaker's Bridge, and twenty to me at Orangeburg. Otherwise we cannot keep up communication; we have none.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

FORT SUMTER, *February 5, 1865—5.45 a. m.*

Captain P. N. PAGE:

Blockaders firing at a vessel which has just come in.

T. A. HUGUENIN,
Captain, Commanding.

WILMINGTON, *February 5, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg:

The enemy's forces in this department largely exceed my command, any diminution of which would seriously endanger the whole. Should you think otherwise I will detach any portion you think may be spared and do all in my power to hold him in check.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

FEBRUARY 5, 1865.

Colonel ANDERSON:

The enemy crossed the Rowanty four miles above Stony Creek this morning and cut telegraph line, moving toward Petersburg and tearing down line as they advanced. Confederate line via Greensborough has been down two days. We expect it to be O. K. to-morrow morning. At present we are using the railroad line to Richmond. General Bragg's message was sent by that line. The enemy were reported within four miles of Midway, S. C., to-day about 2 o'clock. At 4 o'clock we lost current from Augusta, and supposed they reached the road, as we have not had Augusta up to this hour.

Respectfully,

OPERATOR.

FORT ANDERSON, *February 5, 1865—6 p. m.*

Colonel ANDERSON:

A party of the enemy landed at Battery Lamb to-day, and were still there at last accounts. They threw out pickets and appeared to

be at work getting timber. We picked up four of them, sailors who straggled. They say (I give it for what it is worth) that Grant and Hancock were here a week ago; they are expecting re-enforcements; that a transport loaded with negro troops arrived last night; landed at Fisher. They knew, when asked, the number of guns in Fort Anderson. They say they are getting timber at Lamb to be used at Fisher. The party which landed the other day told the inhabitants the same thing.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 5, 1865.*

Governor JOSEPH E. BROWN,
Macon, Ga.:

The crisis is again upon your State. I earnestly call on Your Excellency to send at once to General Smith, for the defense of Augusta, all the forces you can possibly put in the field. Any man who returns to the army an absentee should be exempted.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

AUGUSTA, *February 5, 1865.*

Governor A. G. MAGRATH,
Columbia, S. C.:

The crisis is again upon your State. I earnestly call on Your Excellency to assemble at Columbia all the available forces of the State, exempting, however, any one who will return an absentee to the army.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[FEBRUARY 6, 1865.—For General Orders, No. 3, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, announcing appointment of General R. E. Lee as General-in-Chief of the Armies of the Confederate States, see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 1205.]

AUGUSTA, *February 6, 1865.*
(Received 12.30 p. m. 7th.)

General S. COOPER:

Sherman is reported to nave now six corps—Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Seventeenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, and Twenty-third—amounting probably to about 54,000 infantry and artillery, with about 4,000 cavalry.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

[FEBRUARY 6, 1865.—For Hardee to Davis, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1070.]

[FEBRUARY 6, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1070.]

CHARLESTON, *February 6, 1865.*
(Received 9 o'clock 7th.)

General S. COOPER:

Your dispatch of 5th inquiring why the cotton in Savannah was not destroyed before evacuation of the city is received. The cotton was distributed throughout the city in cellars, garrets, and warehouses, where it could not have been burnt without destroying the city. It had not been sent off by railroad previous to the cutting of the road, and because railroad transportation was monopolized for removal of ordnance, commissary, and other important Government stores. From the cutting of the road to the evacuation of the city—twelve days—every man was required to work on the lines, and every wagon, dray, and cart that could be impressed was needed to keep the troops in a line twelve miles long supplied with ordnance and commissary stores. Not a man nor a woman could have been spared to collect the cotton in a place where it could have been burnt.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 6, 1865—8 a. m.*

Maj. Gen. G. W. SMITH,
Allen's Station:

Browne's men will not answer for the work contemplated, for reasons which I will give you privately. If you are willing to relieve Hazzard's men at Shell Bluff you will find the order inclosed authorizing the company there (Captain Allen's, I think) to return here. The courier lost a dispatch last night from Iverson between Allen's Station and this point. It may have been an important one. I wish you to open all dispatches coming to me at Allen's Station. Inclosed is the authority for the same. If Captain Cooper is with you I think you had better have works thrown up on the two crossings from Green's Cut and on the railroad. The lost dispatch has just been found. Iverson reports Nineteenth Corps, Sheridan's, at No. 2, and Kilpatrick near Springfield.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 6, 1865—7.30 a. m.*

Col. C. C. CREWS,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: Do you watch the approaches to Augusta from the direction of Branchville? The Yankees last night were moving toward Blackville. It is important that you cover the approaches in that direction and notify us. I am placing troops on Big Horse Creek. At present Colonel Cumming is there in command near the bridge. You should send a note to him as well as to me in case of an advance this way. As I understand it, you are to guard all the approaches to the city, so that we may not be surprised, and that you will delay with all your power an advance of the Yankees. Put a pass on the back of your letter for the courier.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 6, 1865—9.15 p. m.*

Colonel CREWS:

Wheeler is to-night between Graham's and Blackville. He will probably retire upon Augusta. Keep me constantly appraised of what is going on in your front. I hope that you have active and vigilant scouts If not in communication with Wheeler you must judge for yourself the proper time for retiring, recollecting, however, the importance of preventing an advance in your direction.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 6, 1865—4.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of to-day, declining to place the transportation to secure the crossing of the Congaree at my command, is received. The river below Columbia cannot be crossed except at the railroad bridge, and it is not and cannot now be made practicable, even for infantry. In my opinion, the safety of the command may depend upon that crossing, the enemy having a shorter line, by twenty miles, to Columbia by other routes; and I respectfully ask again that you place the proper means therefor at my disposal.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 6, 1865.

General DEAS, or
COMMANDING OFFICER AT BINNAKER'S BRIDGE:

GENERAL: It is probable that the enemy will strike the railroad to-day, and you must have your scouts well out in front, so as to give yourself ample time to destroy the bridge before they reach the river.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 6, 1865.

Brigadier-General DEAS,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Your letter of yesterday, informing the major-general commanding of your ability to subsist your command on the country, has been received. He directs me to inform you that Colonel Johnson, commanding Stovall's brigade, has been ordered to Binnaker's Bridge, and Colonel Carter is on the road to join you. As soon as either of these brigades reach you you will commence moving up the river to Holman's Bridge, and when Colonel Johnson arrives you will move your whole division to Holman's Bridge and the bridge above, leaving Colonel Johnson where you now are, with all the instructions you may think proper to give him. You must keep scouts out and communicate with the cavalry. It is probable that it will cross at these points. He

wishes every preparation made to burn these bridges, but not to be set on fire until you are satisfied that they have crossed or not going to cross. You are aware that the destruction of these bridges is of vital importance. Should you have to retire, you will send all the wagons but two that were sent you from here back to Orangeburg. Should it become necessary for you to fall back, you will march to Columbia. You can take one section of Kanapaux's battery with you.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 6, 1865.

Brigadier-General PALMER,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I am directed to inform you that Colonel Johnson, commanding brigade, has relieved General Deas at Binnaker's Bridge. You will therefore communicate with Colonel Johnson, and be responsible for any fords between you and him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Branchville, S. C., February 6, 1865.

Colonel JOHNSON,
Commanding:

COLONEL: General Stevenson directs that you move at once to Binnaker's Bridge, taking the same road that Colonel Carter marched on, and relieve General Deas. You will keep in communication with commanders on your right and left. Special instructions will be given by General Deas as to the defense of the position.

Respectfully, your most obedient servant.

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 6, 1865.*

COMMANDING OFFICER, COLUMBIA, S. C.:

It is still uncertain whether enemy, after reaching Branchville, will move on Augusta, Columbia, or Charleston. He may move on two last at once, without our being able to check him long. Make, accordingly, all necessary preparations. Communicate this to Governor Magrath and General Winder.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 6, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

I informed you last night to follow instructions of General Hardee, looking, however, to support of Generals Hampton and Stevenson for defense of Columbia and crossings of Congaree. Columbia is more important than Augusta.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 6, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,
Chief Engineer, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: In reply to your communication of the 26th ultimo, in relation to the repairs to the Georgia railroads, General Beauregard instructs me to say:

First. That he has been at all times ready to co-operate with Captain Grant and render him every aid and facility in his power. This willingness has been communicated to Captain Grant on several occasions.

Second. Delays in the prosecution of the work are sometimes unavoidable, and wherever any act of "impressment" on the ground of "military necessity" has arisen, the authority for the exercise of such a power has, in order to avoid delay, been given.

The engineers have only asked for such authority in two instances—the impressment of iron from the Augusta and Savannah and the Macon and Brunswick Railroads. The authority was granted in both cases. To-day an application was made for transportation of the iron, but military pressure for the transportation of troops and supplies is so great and means so limited that a delay for several days in answering this call will ensue. But as soon as the necessity shall cease the means of transportation will be ordered.

Third. It is impracticable at present to order the removal of the iron from the Mayfield and Washington Branch Roads. They have now become lines of communication of the first importance. Washington and Abbeville may become our future base of supplies for the army in Virginia.

The Athens Branch is important as an auxiliary to the other roads. The order for the removal of the iron from the Mobile and Girard Railroad was recalled, because it was ascertained that only a few miles of T rail could be obtained from that road on the end near Columbus, the other portion of the road being laid with flat rail. It was deemed unnecessary to destroy the usefulness of the entire road for the few miles of iron which could be made available where no equipment could be obtained. In lieu of iron from this source, the Fort Gaines road was resorted to.

Fourth. General Beauregard directs me also to say that he is personally unacquainted with Captain Grant, who may be fully possessed of all the professional skill and intelligence accredited to him, but that, judging of his energy by his results, the general feels bound to give credit to the general reputation of Captain Grant's "slowness," which reputation extends from this place to Montgomery. In the same length of time Major Hottle has nearly repaired a length of road equal to that under charge of Captain Grant, which the latter will not complete until the first or middle of April.

In conclusion, general, you may rest assured that every aid and facility in the power of General Beauregard will be given to Major Myers and Captain Grant to push forward their labors to rapid completion.

I have the honor to be, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 6, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding, &c., Augusta, Ga.:

GENERAL: General Beauregard desires me to call your attention to the fact that it has been represented to him there is more tobacco than cotton accumulated in Augusta. He desires that as soon as you shall have made the necessary arrangements for preventing the cotton from falling into the hands of the enemy you will take the proper steps to prevent the tobacco stored in this city from being also seized by the enemy. If necessary, it would be effectually destroyed by being thrown into the river.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, February 6, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding, &c., Augusta, Ga.:

GENERAL: General Beauregard desires that you will direct General Ferguson, with his command, to move here, and that General Iverson be instructed, in addition to watching closely in his front, to send out scouting parties toward the Ogeechee, to observe the movements of the enemy in that direction. Instruct General Ferguson to report promptly his arrival on Brier Creek.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 6, 1865.*

Brigadier-General FRY,
Commanding at Augusta:

GENERAL: General Beauregard desires that you will halt the Federal prisoners reported to be at Mayfield at once, and in his name order them back to Andersonville, or such other place in Georgia where the Federal prisoners may be confined.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GRAHAM'S, *February 6, 1865—11.50 p. m.*

General BEAUREGARD:

Enemy will certainly take possession of railroad to-morrow, and I shall get between him and Augusta. I have sent one brigade to re-enforce Colonel Crews, who is now between enemy and Augusta. Should he move toward Columbia, I will cross bridge above and get in his front. I have ordered all bridges below Holman's Bridge destroyed.

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 6, 1865.

General IVERSON:

GENERAL: I send you an order of General Beauregard with indorsement so full as to preclude the necessity of details in a letter. I leave it to your judgment whether to withdraw Colonel Hawkins or not. You ought to concentrate everything for a fight. Wheeler had held the railroad up to 5 o'clock this morning, but thought that he would lose it to-day. We are concerned to know whether the Twenty-third Corps is at or near Savannah, and whether Kilpatrick has crossed.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, *February 6, 1865.*
(Received 7th.)

General BRAGG,
Wilmington:

Constructor Porter can complete the new vessel in ninety days. Machinery is ready at Columbus to suit. I do not wish to move it without reliable assurance that Wilmington will be held long enough [to complete] the work. Before ordering it on, therefore, please advise me the chances of our holding Wilmington.

S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 6, 1865.

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Army of Northern Virginia:

COLONEL: I inclose a copy of a communication* from General Baker relative to movements of the enemy at Morehead City and New Berne. From other reports I am satisfied some important operation is on foot in that quarter.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 6, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,
Chief Engineer, Richmond:

GENERAL: I have your confidential letter in regard to the Wilmington and Rutherford Railroad. Immediately on its receipt I took measures to inform myself in regard to its importance, public and private, as well as its availability. I find a large proportion of the supplies, probably one-half, used by the troops in this region, is drawn from the country bordering this road, and a still larger proportion of the subsistence for the citizens reaches them by this route. But this is not the main consideration inducing me to defer action on your suggestions. The road, though not absolutely owned by, is mortgaged to, the State of North Carolina, and any attempt to seize it under the impress-

* Not found.

ment law will be resisted. Indeed, this was once done, and the State defeated the attempt and held the road. You can find the proceedings on file in the War Department, dated about one year ago. The only hope, then, it seems to me, is to appeal to Governor Vance on the subject, and endeavor to obtain the consent of the State. With this view I shall defer action for further advice.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WHITEVILLE, *February 6, 1895.*

Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Wilmington:

Reports confirm landing of enemy in considerable force at Little River. Supposed purpose, raid on this place.

P. F. CAMPBELL,
Operator.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 11. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, *Wilmington, February 6, 1865.*

In addition to his duties as chief surgeon of the Third Military District, Surgeon Logan will discharge those of medical director of the department until an assignment is made.

By order of General Bragg:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *February 6, 1865—6.20 p. m.*

Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Mrs. Lamb will be received on the enemy's lines to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

Mrs. Lamb ought to leave Wilmington by 7 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Respectfully,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Telegraph General Hoke Mrs. Lamb will be sent down as soon as she arrives, but may not be here by that hour. Have everything ready to send her—ambulance, wagon, &c.

B. B[RAGG].

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 6, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster:

MAJOR: General Beauregard desires that a pontoon train, composed of sixty boats, fully equipped, be ordered here at once by rail. Let them follow the wagon train as early as practicable.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 6, 1865.*

Maj. W. F. AYER,
Chief Quartermaster, Army of Tennessee:
(Care of post quartermaster, Columbus, Ga.)

General Beauregard directs me by telegraph to instruct you to send the wagons by rail and the horses by land to Augusta. This is all-important. Acknowledge receipt of this dispatch.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] AUGUSTA, *February 7, 1865.*

Hereafter no trunk will be allowed to any staff officer whilst in movement. From this date officers will move in light marching order. One valise will only be allowed for clothing.

By order of General Beauregard:

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 7, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Augusta, Ga.:

Following just received from Major Ayer by telegraph from Columbus, Ga., in answer to my telegram communicating your order:

Telegram received. Wagons not yet arrived at this place. How are they to be shipped by rail to Augusta when there is a break of thirty-two miles?

Have telegraphed Major Ayer to communicate with you or General Beauregard on the subject.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 7, 1865.*

Maj. W. F. AYER,
Chief Quartermaster Army of Tennessee, Columbus, Ga.:

Telegram regarding wagons received. Communicate with General Beauregard or Major Willis at Augusta.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 32. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF SOUTH CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA, *Charleston, S. C., February 7, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

VII. Maj. Gen. P. M. B. Young, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to the command of Iverson's division of cavalry. He will proceed without delay to Georgia and assume command accordingly.

VIII. Maj. Gen. Wade Hampton, Provisional Army, C. S., having reported for duty in this department, is assigned to the command of Butler's and Young's divisions of cavalry.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

H. W. FEILDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 7, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. A. W. REYNOLDS:

GENERAL: The men you sent down have all run off. Mr. Glenn promised that a company should be formed from them for Dearing's battery, but we have proof that he made them a speech, telling them that they were going to be taken from him, and advising them to run off. This they did, after selling all the public property they had in camp. I hope that you will take prompt action in the case. I sent you an order yesterday from General Beauregard to send 500 men as a guard to the stores at Washington, Ga., to report to Colonel Rudler, commanding post.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 7, 1865—11 a. m.*

Colonel CUMMING:

COLONEL: I can't find out whether any of the Western troops have gone out to you or not. Please let me know. If Captain Lumpkin is with your command put him in position. The two 3-inch rifles have come up for him and he can get them at any time. The Yankees got on the railroad last night. Two brigades of Wheeler's command are between them and Augusta. Make your arrangements for defense and vigilance as though they were not there.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 7, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

If your health will permit, I consider it of great importance that you should come here at once.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 7, 1865.*

Major-General WHEELER:

Send at least 500 additional cavalry across the Edisto. Let one regiment report to Major-General Stevenson.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 7, 1865—11 a. m.*

Colonel C. C. CREWS,
Commanding, &c.:

COLONEL: Your dispatch of last night, 11 p. m., received. You will keep up communication on your left, by pickets and scouts, with General Wheeler and communicate with him. He telegraphs that he had sent another brigade to your support. You somewhat misunderstood my note. It was meant simply to apprise you of the state of things on the railroad, and of what was required of you in case of an advance upon Augusta. It was not intended that you should abandon the line

of Three Runs, if you could there the better check the Yankees. However, should they turn the position by the railroad, your safety requires its abandonment. At all events you must keep between them and Augusta. There will be a strong infantry force at Big Horse Creek to-day. When you are compelled to cross it, report in advance to the commanding officer there. Colonel Cumming is in immediate command at the bridge and Beach Island road.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 7, 1865.

Brigadier-General IVERSON:

GENERAL: General B[eauregard] directs that you turn over your forage wagons as directed, and concentrate your command at Rae's Bridge. You will so dispose of your men as to protect the line of telegraph to Millen. You will effectually destroy Brannon's Bridge. You will still keep scouts and pickets as near Sister's Ferry as possible, and ascertain all that you can in regard to the movements, plans, and strength of the Yankees. I duplicate an order to you ordering General Ferguson's moving without delay to this place. If Colonel Harris is on the other side of the Ogeechee you can order Colonel Hawkins to join you, and may do so in any event, provided you think that his command is not essential on Taylor's Creek, and in that county. You must move promptly to Rae's Bridge. Duplicate the order to General Ferguson and be sure that he gets it. Acknowledge receipt of this.

D. H. HILL.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 7, 1865.

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE,
Governor of North Carolina, Raleigh:

SIR: Great activity prevails in the enemy's lines about New Berne, and he is industriously engaged in repairing the railroad toward Kinston and collecting supplies, especially forage. These indications clearly point to a movement toward the State capital. I will keep you advised of all that we learn on the subject, but sufficient is known now to justify me in asking you to urge forward the organization of your State forces and to have them in hand ready to aid us the moment the movement is developed. Goldsborough will be the point for our concentration and we must be in time to meet the enemy east of the railroad. General Grant has been to Beaufort and New Berne recently, no doubt to initiate this movement.

I am, governor, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

WILMINGTON, *February 7, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Petersburg:

General Grant visited his troops in this State last week. Great activity now prevails at Beaufort and New Berne. Troops are arriving,

supplies are accumulating, and heavy working parties are repairing the railroad toward Goldsborough. Operations in that quarter may soon be expected.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 7, 1865.

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Northern Virginia:

COLONEL: Lieutenant-Colonel Pemberton, artillery, has furnished me with a copy of his report of inspections made here, in which it is stated that the guns at Batteries Davis and Lee do not bear upon the obstructions in the river, and that those at Batteries Campbell and Meares do not command them. This is an error, as will appear from the report of Brigadier-General Hébert, chief engineer, a copy of which is inclosed. Lieutenant-Colonel Pemberton supposed there was only one line of obstructions, whereas there are two, one the upper, visible, the other sunken. The inclosed copy of the report of Lieutenant-Colonel Oladowski, chief ordnance officer, will show the condition of the armament of these works, hastily put in order after the fall of Fort Fisher.*

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

OFFICE CHIEF ENGINEER,
DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 4, 1865.

Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of North Carolina:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I have to-day made an examination of the batteries at the obstructions of the Cape Fear River, below the town of Wilmington, with a view to ascertain how far the several guns in the batteries command the obstructions. I took the batteries one after the other, commencing with the nearest to town, and in the following notes I number the guns from right to left. The report is made in connection with the inspection report of Lieut. Col. J. C. Pemberton, of which you have furnished me a copy.

BATTERY DAVIS.

First, one 24-pounder, long, not banded, rifled; second, one 8-inch sea-coast howitzer; third, one 24-pounder, smooth-bore. These three guns bear on both the upper and lower obstructions, and also on the lower mouth of Brunswick River. There are in this battery three empty gun chambers.

BATTERY LEE.

First, one 8-inch sea-coast howitzer; second, one single-banded rifled 32-pounder. Both guns in this battery bear on the upper and lower obstructions, and on the lower end of Brunswick River.

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* For "Chart of the obstructions in the Cape Fear and Brunswick Rivers, and the batteries commanding them," see Plate LXVIII, Map 7 of the Atlas.

BATTERY CAMPBELL.

First, one 30-pounder Parrott on the right of the battery, which will be mounted by to-morrow, if not to-day. It will bear upon the upper and lower obstructions and mouth of Brunswick River. It will be our best gun to keep the enemy at long range below the lower obstructions. Second, one 9-inch Dahlgren on navy carriage. Bears fully on lower obstructions and on lower mouth of Brunswick River, and can be brought to bear on upper obstructions to one-half the river Cape Fear. Third, one 9-inch Dahlgren on navy carriage. Bears fully on lower obstructions and lower mouth of Brunswick River. Can be brought to bear on the upper obstructions to one-half of the river Cape Fear. Fourth, one 8-inch sea-coast howitzer. Bears on lower obstructions and lower mouth of Brunswick River. Can be brought to bear by cutting down end of right traverse to one-half river at upper obstructions. Fifth, one long smooth-bore 32-pounder. Bears on lower obstructions and lower mouth of Brunswick River. This gun cannot be brought to bear on upper obstructions. On the immediate left of Battery Campbell, and nearer the river, a sunken battery is now being constructed, in which it is intended to mount two smooth-bore 24-pounders, which were dismounted from Battery Campbell lately and replaced by the two 9-inch Dahlgrens. When this sunken battery is placed, the two guns will bear on the lower obstructions and on the Brunswick River mouth. The one on the right will also bear on upper obstructions. One carriage and chassis will be wanted for one of the two guns.

BATTERY MEARES.

First, one 8-inch sea-coast howitzer; second, one long smooth-bore 32-pounder; third, one 9-inch Dahlgren on navy carriage; fourth, one single-banded 32-pounder, rifled; fifth, one 24-pounder, rifled, not banded, and lately dismounted to make room for the rifled 32-pounder. The mounted guns bear on the lower obstructions and the mouth of Brunswick River, but cannot be made to bear on the upper obstructions. On the right of Battery Lee about fifty yards is a work which was once a two-gun casemated battery. The casemates have been closed on the outside and two platforms built over them for barbette guns. There are no guns there now. I respectfully suggest that two guns be taken from the land line of Wilmington and placed in the battery. There are on the land line of Wilmington twelve 32-pounders and six 24-pounders, all smooth-bores.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General and Chief Engineer.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, ORDNANCE OFFICE,
Wilmington, February 5, 1865.

Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Wilmington, N. C.:

COLONEL: In obedience to instructions from headquarters of this department, I inspected the armament of Fort Anderson, and have the honor to report that it consists of nine 32-pounder guns on barbette carriages, front pintle, wooden traverse circles. They are: Two rifled, unbanded; two oldest pattern of the United States, which kind of guns were condemned by U. S. inspectors previous to year 1860, and five

of pattern of 1840. Below the fort is a work armed with one 32-pounder gun of oldest pattern, as described (two of them in the fort). The projectiles for these guns are 913 shot, 708 shell, 39 grape, and 106 canister-shot, with sufficient supply of projecting charges, making 170 rounds for each gun. The implements are in a state to serve the guns in conformity with their number of ammunition. In consequence of augmenting garrison by troops from Forts Caswell, &c., the supply of small-arm ammunition was insufficient, but it was forwarded immediately from ordnance depot at Wilmington. On my inspection of batteries to defend the river obstructions, I found them as follows:

BATTERY MEARES.

Armament.—One 8-inch sea-coast howitzer; one 32-pounder smooth-bore, and one 24-pounder rifle, on indifferent barbette carriages, front pintle, wooden traverse circles. Projectiles for 8-inch—62 shell, 32 spherical case-shot, 48 shell, unstrapped, 10 grape-shot. For 32-pounder—32 shell, 189 shot, 27 grape, and 48 canister-shot. For 24-pounder, rifled—125 shell, 28 shot. Cartridges—100 8-pound, 76 6-pound, 1,100 pounds cannon powder.

BATTERY CAMPBELL.

Armament.—One 8-inch light navy shell gun; two 24-pounder smooth-bores; one 32-pounder smooth-bore, on indifferent barbette carriages, front pintles, wooden circles. Ammunition for 8-inch—50 shell; for 24-pounder—24 shell, 189 shot; for 32-pounder—69 shell. As the metal of armament of these batteries was insufficient to obtain the expected results, I was instructed to procure from the Navy Department such guns as could be spared. Commander Pinckney, being applied to, ordered to turn over three 9-inch Dahlgrens, one 6-inch banded and one 30-pounder Parrott, with requisite implements, as far as could be obtained in emergency, as the supplies not necessary for immediate service in navy and army ordnance department were ordered to be sent to interior, and consequently the necessary articles cannot be procured immediately. The 9-inch Dahlgrens being used only by navy, could not be mounted in so short a time. It was impossible to mount them on other than navy gun carriages, but the application was made to the commanding officer at Fayetteville arsenal for suitable barbette carriages, one of which is received and sent to Fort Meares, and two others will be forwarded as soon as possible. In consequence of the above changes the batteries are at present armed:

BATTERY MEARES.

Armament.—One 6-inch, rifled, banded; one 8-inch sea-coast howitzer; one 9-inch Dahlgren, and one 32-pounder smooth-bore.

BATTERY CAMPBELL.

Armament.—Two 9-inch Dahlgrens; one 8-inch navy light shell gun, and one 32-pounder smooth-bore. Few yards of this battery is constructed a detached work containing one 30-pounder Parrott gun, erected in object to have a long range down the river. The ammunition for these batteries is 100 rounds to each gun. The implements are not as sufficient as should be expected, but can render good service until the others can be received, every effort being made to obtain them. Above these batteries and close to the obstructions in the river

are constructed two more batteries, and as their armament is considered to answer the purpose, and the heavier caliber could not be procured in short time, it remained unchanged and consists as follows:

BATTERY LEE.

Armament.—One 32-pounder, rifled, banded, on barbette; one 8-inch navy light shell gun, on casement carriage. Ammunition for 8-inch—88 shell, 28 incendiary shell, 10 spherical case-shot, 17 grape, and 10 canister-shot. For 32-pounder rifle—111 shell, 155 shot. Cartridges—66 8-pound, 154 6-pound, and 900 pounds powder (cannon). The implements in tolerably good order.

BATTERY DAVIS.

Armament.—One 8-inch sea-coast howitzer; one 24-pounder, rifled, unbanded, and one 24-pounder, smooth-bore. Ammunition for 8-inch—47 shot, 36 spherical case-shot, 51 shell filled, and 75 shell not filled. For 24-pounder rifled—167 shell; for 24-pounder smooth-bore—201 shell, 73 shot, 24 canister-shot. Cartridges—371 8-pound, 472 6-pound, 202 4-pound, and 600 pounds cannon powder. The implements, as usual, not in very good preservation. The traverse circles, with the exception of one gun, whose carriage was received from Fayetteville, are made of wood. The ordnance department having no money, I was instructed to apply to the engineer department for usual iron traverse circles, but no result of my application is as yet obtained. The 8-inch guns, being chambered and of light construction, cannot be used to throw solid shot. I respectfully request that instructions be given to the commanding officers of these batteries to the effect that only hollow projectiles and grape or canister shot be used. Concerning the implements of the batteries, I am informed by Major Sloan, commanding officer of ordnance depot at Wilmington, that not long since those defenses were completely furnished. I know by my own observation that the commanders of batteries in many instances (especially where they are often changed) pay little attention to preservation of supplies. I should respectfully submit to your consideration that some means may be devised to preserve and husband the articles issued. Airing ammunition, sheltering implements from rain and sun would greatly add to their efficiency and preservation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. OLADOWSKI,
Chief Ordnance Officer, Department of North Carolina.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 7, 1865.

Brig. Gen. LOUIS HÉBERT,
Chief Engineer:

GENERAL: The commanding general has received your note of to-day giving the results of Captain Liernur's examination of landing and roads on the east bank of the Cape Fear, and directs that the work therein proposed be executed with all possible dispatch. Major-General Hoke will receive a copy of your note from this office, with instructions to furnish the necessary guard for his depot.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE,
Commanding Division, Sugar Loaf:

GENERAL: I have the instruction of the commanding general to communicate his views to you as follows: The enemy's reconnoitering and marauding parties on the west side of the river should be captured or prevented from coming out at all. Our cavalry is not pushed forward as close to their lines as it should be. The recent capture of prisoners in our front by signal officer points to want of vigor in that arm. Detachments ought not to land with impunity, as they have just done at Battery Lamb. It would seem practicable to greatly annoy, if not capture, the very small garrison at Smithville. Even this effort would enliven our troops, now stagnating and despondent for want of activity. Supplies in the country and telegraph wire close to the Federal lines should be brought out and our people prevented from trading or communicating with the enemy. Such measures would also prevent desertions to the enemy by closing the avenues of approach and stop the recruiting of the U. S. forces from runaway negroes, which is going on to considerable extent.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *February 7, 1865.*

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Have you received information from General Hagood of the enemy landing troops to-day? Nothing of the kind could be seen from this side.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

FORT ANDERSON, *February 7, 1865.*

Colonel ANDERSON:

Signal operator reports enemy landing troops at Buchanan from transports in the inlet and outside, brought to Buchanan in tugs. They had guns, knapsacks, &c.; wagons hauling up baggage. They were discovered when fog lifted at 12 o'clock. The operator saw, he thinks, 1,200 landed after 12 o'clock. These marched through Fisher to Camp Wyatt. A considerable number of tents also appeared at Camp Wyatt this morning that were not there yesterday; this before the 1,200 marched up.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 7, 1865.

Col. GEORGE JACKSON,
Commanding Post:

COLONEL: The commanding general directs that you take immediate measures to remove every bale of cotton stored in Wilmington as fast

as transportation by one of the railways can be procured. Major Cameron, who has charge of such shipments, has been instructed to give preference to the cotton now held when it cannot be safely burned.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 7, 1865.

Brig. Gen. L. S. BAKER,
Goldsborough:

GENERAL: The indications seem to favor active movements by the enemy against you from New Berne. The commanding general desires you, therefore, to hold your troops in hand and to use all possible means to keep fully advised. Your cavalry should be kept in the enemy's immediate presence, and be required to send daily reports of observations, and make occasional dashes on the flanks or rear of the Federals to harass them and retard their operations. To accomplish these objects it will be necessary to concentrate it as far as practicable.

Very respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 8, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Armies, &c.:

GENERAL: General Ripley visits you for the purpose of presenting to you his views in regard to matters in South Carolina, and more particularly the city of Charleston. I would be happy if you would afford him the opportunity of giving him an audience on the subjects mentioned, being those concerning which your suggestions to General Beauregard are desired.

Very truly and respectfully, yours,

JEFF'N DAVIS.

AUGUSTA, *February 8, 1865.*
(Received 8.40 a. m. 9th.)

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Enemy cut railroad to Charleston yesterday morning near Blackville. Lee's corps is in position on the south fork of the Edisto, protecting the approaches to Columbia. Head of Cheatham's corps arrived here last night. McLaws' division is at and about Branchville. I shall leave here to-morrow for Columbia.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

AUGUSTA, *February 8, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster:

MAJOR: General Beauregard has been informed that the railroad from Barnett to Washington is out of order. He desires that you will take immediate steps to put it in complete running order.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 8, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster:

MAJOR: General Beauregard desires that the troops at Mayfieldand Camak be hurried to this place at once. You will please take such steps as will effect their transportation here at once.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 8, 1865.*

Col. G. W. RAINS,
Ordnance Department:

COLONEL: General Beauregard directs me to say that he deems it advisable that you commence at once the removal of your stores.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, *February 8, 1865.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

General Winder died last night at Florence, S. C. Under the present movements of the enemy his successor to command should be here promptly. Colonel Forno will be here to-day.

W. G. BARTH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully submitted to His Excellency the President.

JOHN W. RIELY,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 32. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, February 8, 1865.

* * * * * * *

IV. Surg. A. J. Foard is relieved from duty as medical director of the Army of Tennessee and assigned as medical inspector with authority

to inspect the armies and hospitals in the States of Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi. His reports will be made direct to the Surgeon-General.

* * * * * * *

By command of Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 8, 1865—10 p. m.*
(Received 5 p. m. 9th.)

President DAVIS:

The enemy appeared at railroad bridge near Branchville to-day; also at New Bridge, five miles below, and at Binnaker's and Holman's Bridges above. No serious effort made to cross the Edisto. Enemy have driven our forces from railroad bridge over Salkehatchie, and are active at Combahee Ferry. Nothing heard from Wheeler to-day.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 8, 1865.*

General S. COOPER:

The troops in this department have been organized into divisions as far as their territorial distribution would allow. Taliaferro's division consists of two brigades, commanded by Brigadier-General Elliott and Colonel Rhett, and numbers about 5,000 effectives. Its organization is upon Special Orders, No. 311, series 1864, from these headquarters, paragraph 4, copy of which was forwarded to your office.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 8, 1865—5 p. m.*

General SMITH:

GENERAL: You will please bring your troops here in the morning, starting at daylight, with two days' cooked rations. Leave General Browne on the river, at the mouth of Spirit Creek. Direct him to impress horses to take the 20-pounder Parrotts to the work there in construction. General Browne must keep a messenger constantly at Allen's Station to carry dispatches to him.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

P. S.—Yankees are between Windsor and Aiken.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
Augusta, February 8, 1865—6 p. m.

Major-General SMITH:

Captain Kirk informs me that he issued the order last night for the whole of Browne's command to move to Shell Bluff. There is a mistake out somewhere. I understood that Major McCrady was construct-

ing a field-work on the river near the mouth of Spirit Creek. Browne's command were ordered to that point. You had, I understood, directed him to send fifty men to Shell Bluff the day previous to relieve Captain Allen's company. That was all right. I wrote you an hour ago that General Beauregard had directed your whole command to march here at daylight to-morrow, leaving General Browne at mouth of Spirit Creek to fit up and defend the work there. If there has been any mistake about General B. please send a staff officer after him. Fifty of his men are to be left at Shell Bluff, and rest at mouth of Spirit Creek. General B. is to keep a messenger constantly at the courier station near Allen's.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 8, 1865—1.15 p. m.

Colonel CUMMING:

Nothing has been heard from Wheeler or Colonel Crews to-day. The telegraph is not working beyond Aiken. What it means I don't know, but hope that you will have your men well in hand, and that you will keep strong and vigilant pickets at the crossings. The Graniteville road should be well watched.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 8, 1865—5 p. m.*

Col. C. C. CREWS:

COLONEL: General Beauregard wishes me to direct you, unless you have specific orders from General Wheeler of another import, to fall back with your own brigade and the brigade with you (supposed to be Dibrell's) behind Upper Three Runs and connect on your left with General Wheeler. The Yankees now occupy Windsor. Hagan's brigade was stampeded and ran off. A column of infantry is reported to be marching from Barnwell Court-House to Aiken. Truth of the last report not known. Avoid being turned on your left. Have heard nothing from you to-day. Keep me constantly advised.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 8, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

Col. C. C. CREWS,
Commanding, &c.:

COLONEL: I sent a special messenger to you to communicate to you General Beauregard's order to fall back upon Upper Three Runs, as the Yankees were at Windsor this afternoon. You must keep well posted as to movements upon your left and guard against being cut off.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 8, 1865.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston:

I hold the Edisto to Duncan's Bridge with seven brigades. No cavalry co-operating to my knowledge.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 8, 1865—1.30 p. m.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston:

I hold as far as Holman's and Duncan's Bridges. Binnaker's has been burned. The cavalry have appeared in front of it and New Bridge—as yet only cavalry. I have not heard from Wheeler for two days. I am trying to find him. I have no cavalry but couriers and scouts. I know of no Confederate cavalry on my right flank.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General, Commanding.

ORANGEBURG, *February 8, 1865—4 p. m.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston:

I am in communication with General Wheeler, and will keep you advised of movements on the right. Bridges as far up as Holman's have been destroyed, the enemy having appeared in small force at that point.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 8, 1865—6.45 p. m.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston:

The enemy's cavalry has approached my line at several points to-day, but have made no demonstration. Sent Wheeler's battery to-day to Columbia. Wheeler is at Davis' Bridge.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 8, 1865.

(*Memorandum for division commanders only.*)

It is of the utmost importance that the line of the Edisto should be held as long as possible. With that view you will extend your lines so as to co-operate fully with those on your right and left. If it has not been done the bridges in your front should be thoroughly destroyed and every approach to the river strongly guarded until Jackson's brigade, of Clayton's division, reaches Binnaker's Bridge. General Palmer will guard the river to within two miles of that bridge. The

remaining portion will be guarded by Colonel Johnson. General Deas will avail himself of every means to be informed of the movements of the enemy on his flank. Should the crossing be forced at any point by a strong force of the enemy, and he cannot be dislodged, information will be given promptly to those on the right and left, and the troops will retire, making as much opposition as possible, Deas toward Columbia, the remainder toward Orangeburg. Commanders will keep themselves in communication with any cavalry in their vicinity, with a view to a perfect co-operation with the cavalry.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Near Orangeburg, February 8, 1865.

General CLAYTON,
Branchville:

GENERAL: The Fifth Tennessee Cavalry, now at Branchville, is subject to my orders. You will please hold them there for the present so as to cover a movement of Cumming's brigade should it be necessary to retire from the river. When relieved by General McLaws you will advise Henderson fully as to the manner of retiring to this place, if practicable, relieving his infantry by cavalry before commencing the movement. Instruct the cavalry commander also fully on the subject. There is a large quantity of surplus subsistence stores, which I am trying to put over the Congaree, and it is important this part of the line should be held as long as possible. If forced to move in two or three days and the enemy follow, the cavalry must avail themselves of every point to hold them in check. As soon as Jackson's brigade receives its ammunition it will move quickly to Binnaker's Bridge. I wish the cavalry couriers and vedettes belonging to the Fifth Tennessee, or Frederick's company, established along General McLaws' line, to be relieved by the cavalry, which has been assigned to him, as I need their services on the right of my line, there being none there. Major George will go down to-morrow to receive and distribute such of the transportation in charge of Captain Courteney, assistant quartermaster, as may be serviceable. To provide for accidents to the telegraph I establish a line of couriers from these headquarters to Branchville to-morrow. Use such ammunition as may be needed for Jackson's and Cumming's brigades from that at Rowe's Pump belonging to the State troops, and I will replace it, or give such vouchers as they may require.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General, Commanding.

ORANGEBURG, *February 8, 1865.*

General CLAYTON,
Branchville:

Hurry your brigade to Binnaker's Bridge to re-enforce Stovall. Have they received ammunition? Answer.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 8, 1865—7 p. m.

Colonel JOHNSON,
Commanding, Branchville:

COLONEL: Jackson's brigade, of Clayton's division, has been ordered to join you to-morrow morning. Impress upon your commanders the importance of holding our line, and urge them to extraordinary vigilance. An additional force of cavalry has been ordered to our right flank.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 8, 1865.

Colonel JOHNSON,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: General Stevenson directs that you hold your position. Jackson's [brigade], of your [Clayton's] division, will be at Binnaker's to-night or early to-morrow morning.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg Court-House, February 8, 1865.

COLONEL COMMANDING JACKSON'S BRIGADE:

COLONEL: General Stevenson directs me to inform you that ammunition is now being sent you from Branchville, and a few boxes of caliber .69 from this place. As soon as the ammunition arrives from Branchville you will fill your cartridge-boxes, secure a guide, and march at once to Binnaker's Bridge. If the ammunition, caliber .69, has not arrived when you are ready to march you will leave the men who require that caliber, under charge of a good officer, who will follow as soon as he gets the ammunition.

On arriving at Binnaker's Bridge the senior officer will take command. Send the wagon that carries you the ammunition from Branchville to General Deas at Holman's Bridge.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 8, 1865.*

E. M. GILBERT,
Superintendent Railroad, Branchville:

The Dr. Thompson is sent to carry cotton to Charleston. Will it be used therefor? I wish to send about 100 militia by rail to Kingsville. When can they go?

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND AND THIRD MILITARY DISTRICTS,
DEPT. OF SOUTH CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
Charleston, S. C., February 8, 1865.

Colonel RHETT:

It is reported to me that there is still a good deal of property on the wreck of the steamer Rattlesnake, and that much of that saved has been secreted by the men, and that already some has been brought to town. I wish you to send working parties, under responsible officers, to secure all the property and as much of the machinery, and especially brass and copper, as possible, and have it placed under guard. You will turn over to the commissary, Major Robertson, all the subsistence stores, and to the quartermaster all other property, and they will have it brought up to the city. The owners agree to pay one-third salvage in kind, which will be allotted after the property reaches the city. I wish you to send out parties to search for and seize all property taken from the wreck found in the hands of unauthorized persons. Major Bulkley, chief commissary, will leave here this evening, and I desire you to give him all assistance and aid in visiting the wreck and making arrangements for the securing and removing of the commissary stores.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. TALIAFERRO,
Brigadier-General.

GUIGNARD'S BRIDGE, S. C., *February 8, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Headquarters Armies of the Confederate States:

GENERAL: I inclose you recommendations that I have made for promotions to major-general, simply to let you know they have been made. General Hardee has recommended General Young for that position, to command a division of my troops, and General Beauregard has recommended General Ferguson for same position. General Hardee, as well as every one connected with this command, knows the impropriety of appointing General Ferguson, and I think it would do harm to appoint General Young, as I have better officers, and it would be great injustice to overlook them and appoint officers from other commands. I think the most proper appointments will be Humes, Allen, and Robertson for major-generals; or if Robertson is thought too young, you might substitute Dibrell. He is a most excellent officer upon the field. You can hardly find a better or more reliable man. All four are brave, efficient, and subordinate, and can be thoroughly relied upon. I only ask their appointments to temporary rank, so that the Department may at any time return them to their old grades. I hope no more assignments will be made, as they do harm, dispirit our officers, and nearly all have proved bad. The enemy struck the railroad yesterday at noon. I had been retarding them for twenty-two days, during which they marched less than sixty miles. Sherman's force, exclusive of cavalry, is not less than 45,000. I will send on an organization of his forces to you in a few days. I have made it up myself from the statements of prisoners. I think it is nearly correct, though it is not quite full. My command is in good spirits, and as full as it has been at any time during the last year. I find, to my surprise, that the Department thought I commanded all the cavalry of the Army of Tennessee last summer. It was not so. I only commanded half, while Jackson commanded the other half. I had nothing to do with him

whatever. Officers from the Army of Tennessee say the wish in the army is for either you or General Johnston to command them. General Deas told me the sentiment was about equal for either. The army is in bad plight and needs something to cheer them up.

With highest regards, your obedient servant and friend,

J. WHEELER.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 8, 1865—4.15 p. m.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that I have established my headquarters at Kitchen's house, about a mile and a half from Pine Log Bridge. I have a regiment fortified at the bridge with a fortified picket and scouts in front. Are there any further instructions for Colonel Crews' and Colonel Hagan's brigades?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 8, 1865—7.20 p. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to state Lieutenant Shamblin, of the Twelfth Alabama Cavalry, has just reached here and reports that the enemy came upon Colonel Hagan about 4 p. m. to-day about two miles west of Williston and made one general charge upon him and swept over him. Lieutenant Shamblin took to the woods before reaching Windsor, but heard firing afterward above Windsor. He thinks that it was the whole of Kilpatrick's force. From Lieutenant Shamblin's account and his estimate of the force of the enemy I fear that many of the men were captured. I have, besides placing a regiment to defend Pine Log Bridge, sent seventy-five men to Scott's Bridge, above this, and have directed the courier line to cross the river at Cook's Bridge, eight miles above Pine Log Bridge. I have heard nothing further from Colonel Crews.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 8, 1865.

General HAMPTON or BUTLER,
Columbia, S. C.:

I will start for you this morning, by dirt road, Wheaton's battery of artillery. Have you any forces on the direct road from Columbia to the Augusta railroad? Will you operate in that direction? Please keep me advised of your movements. Is there a sufficient guard at Columbia?

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 8, 1865—6.45 p. m.*

General WADE HAMPTON, *Columbia:*

Dispatch received. The line of the Edisto is well guarded by infantry. Wheeler at Davis' Bridge. The enemy's cavalry have approached the river at several points, but have made no demonstration. Without his movements are further developed Young's brigade will be needed, but I will hasten him to you as soon as he can be spared.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
Augusta, February 8, 1865.

General IVERSON:

GENERAL: You will use all dispatch in concentrating about Green's Cut, picketing at Rae's Bridge. Have a messenger constantly at the telegraph office, and be ready to move at a moment's notice. Yankees are between Windsor and Aiken.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 8, 1865—1 p. m.

Brigadier-General IVERSON, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: The ordering up of Colonel Hawkins is approved, but General Beauregard thinks that Colonel Harris had better be left in that country on or about Taylor's Creek, in vicinity of position occupied by Colonel Hawkins, Fifth Kentucky. General Ferguson was placed under your orders. Did you send him to Hawkinsville? If not, General Beauregard directs that you prefer charges against him and forward them to me. Get your command at Rae's Bridge as soon as possible, and be ready to move at a moment's notice this way. Send again the order below to General Ferguson.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 8, 1865.*

Hon. S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy, Richmond:

I hope your gun-boat will be pushed to completion. This place will be held so long as our means enable us. There is no indication of any movement against it, and our means of defense are improving.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RICHMOND, *February 8, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG, *Wilmington:*

President has telegraphed General Lee that he desires your presence for conference, if you can be spared long enough. If you come, telegraph me too.

JNO. B. SALE,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
February 8, 1865.

General B. BRAGG:

Can the Second South Carolina Cavalry be spared for defense of South Carolina?

R. E. LEE.

WILMINGTON, *February 8, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Petersburg:

Our signal officer opposite Fort Fisher reports the enemy landing troops there yesterday from transports. He estimates 1,200 after 12 o'clock, when his first observation was made.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 8, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE,
Sugar Loaf:

Only communication with Georgia now is by Columbia, Abbeville, and thence across country to Athens. Do you think it advisable to grant furloughs to Georgia soldiers under the circumstances? Your advice will control, as you know temper of troops.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *February 8, 1865.*

Colonel ANDERSON:

I do not think it advisable to grant furloughs to visit Georgia at present. I will withhold them until we hear further.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 8, 1865.

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE,
Sugar Loaf:

GENERAL: I have the honor to communicate for your guidance the following instructions from the commanding general: First. The utmost vigilance must be observed in the front on both sides of the river to secure timely notice of any movement. Our pickets should be always in sight of the enemy, and a close and unremitting observation should be kept up. Second. The arrival or departure of troops or their transfer from one point to another should be promptly reported. Third. Communication with the enemy by our people should be prevented as far as possible, and all parties, especially negroes, going or returning to or from their lines should be arrested. Fourth. All supplies in the country subject to the enemy's incursions should be promptly removed to our lines. Fifth. Reconnoitering and working parties of the enemy should be captured. Sixth. An attempt by the gun-boats to pass Fort Anderson must be resisted by all means in our power, but should they succeed we must be prepared to move also. A mere passage of a few gun-boats,

however, without troops will not render necessary any change of position. They may be much harassed, if not disabled, by judicious use of long-range light guns from the banks of the river, and will be delayed seriously at the obstructions. Special orders will be given for any move in this emergency. Seventh. A point for communication across the river has been selected, and a steam ferry with flats is being prepared to run from the mouth of Town Creek on the west to the Old State Salt Landing on the east. By this route re-enforcements can be sent to and from both detachments of the command until the fort is passed. Thus any land attack can be met. Arrangements should be made in advance and speedily for the use of this ferry, and an understanding be had as to the troops to move, &c. Except in an extreme case, involving the safety of the command, the present positions will not be abandoned.

Respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 8, 1865.*

Brigadier-General HAGOOD,
Fort Anderson:

General Hoke will receive to-day special instructions and will communicate.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT ANDERSON, *February 8, 1865—5.30 p. m.*

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The following is the report of the signal operator to-day:

Five transports left this morning going north. Six large steam transports lying outside near Battery Holland all day. Think they are landing troops. About 500 cavalry seen drilling near Camp Wyatt.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

FORT ANDERSON, *February 8, 1865—9 p. m.*

Col. A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy are reported by my advance guard to be landing in force between Fort Anderson and themselves. I have sent a staff officer to investigate the report and with instructions to the guard. Will report more fully as soon as I can.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

FORT ANDERSON, *February 8, 1865—9.45 p. m.*

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I am inclined to think the alarm given by the advanced guard unfounded. Will report fully in a short time.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

FORT ANDERSON, *February 8, 1865—12 midnight.*

Colonel ANDERSON:

The report of the Yankees landing has proved without foundation.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 8, 1865.*

Lieutenant-Colonel ANDERSON:

Commanding officer Fort Branch reports enemy re-enforcing at Plymouth with eight gun-boats and 4,000 men. Scout saw the gun-boats. Destination reported Fort Branch and Edwards Ferry. This probably the force I had driven from Colerain. All scouts report movement on foot at New Berne. Re-enforcements have not yet arrived there, but arrangements must be made for the defense of the district.

Respectfully,

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 8, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. W. W. MACKALL,
Commanding Post, Macon, Ga.:

Direct Col. A. P. Mason on his arrival at Macon to stop the books and records of Army of Tennessee at that point. Colonel Mason left here yesterday morning.

By command of General Beauregard:

HENRY BRYAN,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[FEBRUARY 9, 1865.—For General Orders, No. 1, headquarters Confederate Army, announcing General Robert E. Lee as assuming command of the military forces of the Confederate States, see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 1226.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, February 9, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding, &c., Augusta:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs me to embody in a letter of instructions his views in relation to the operations of the troops in and about Augusta. First. The infantry troops, as they shall arrive, will take up position along the line of Big Horse Creek. When it shall be ascertained that the enemy has no real design on Augusta, Cheatham's corps will move on Columbia, unless in meanwhile otherwise ordered. Stewart's corps will also follow Cheatham, if his presence should not be required here. Second. The artillery of Lee's corps will, on its arrival, move toward Columbia to effect a junction with its command. The other battalions of artillery will move with their respective commands. Palmer's battalion will report to Major-General Hill for orders on its arrival. Third. Ferguson's brigade will at once march to this place and cross the Savannah and aid, in connection with Crews and Hagan, in covering Augusta. Iverson will concentrate on Brier Creek, keeping his scouts and pickets well to the front. Fourth. The forces

of Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith will move to Augusta, and if his troops (Georgia militia) will cross the Savannah he will also take up position on the line of the Big Horse Creek. Fifth. Crews' brigade will be withdrawn to Upper Three Mile Run and, should he be pressed, will fall back to Hollow Creek, and, should it become necessary, will retire on the infantry on Big Horse Creek. He will keep constantly his left in communication with Wheeler's right. Sixth. It is not the design of General Beauregard that any general battle should be delivered here. Should it become evident after reconnaissances that the enemy is in superior force and contemplates an attack on the city, the troops will retire westwardly, with a view of covering Camak and the Mayfield and Washington Branch roads. Seventh. All military stores not necessary to be kept in depot for the immediate use of the troops should be sent to convenient and safe depots west of Augusta. Eighth. When it becomes evident that the enemy is in force and designs an attack on the city all cotton, tobacco, and other stores likely to prove useful to the enemy and to fall into their hands will be destroyed. Ninth. You will in time withdraw the naval detail at the Shell Bluff Battery. Tenth. When the troops shall have passed through Augusta Major-General Hill will proceed to the headquarters of General Beauregard for assignment to some appropriate command of the forces in the field.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 9, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

Have telegraphed General Mackall to stop books and records of Army of Tennessee at Macon, but fear your dispatch came too late.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 9, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. A. P. STEWART,
Augusta, Ga.:

Lieut. Malcolm Morse telegraphs to Captain Gale from Meridian to-day as follows:

Arrived here yesterday with eighteen couriers, in accordance with orders sent me through Major Lauderdale. Being without wagons and money, I will wait for orders at Demopolis, there being no forage here.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 9, 1865.

General Ferguson is directed by General Beauregard to proceed without delay to Augusta, Ga., and report with his brigade to the district commander.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 9, 1865—8.30 p. m.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston:

Wheeler reports a skirmish with the enemy at Johnson's Station, and that infantry and cavalry are in his front. He is at Guignard's, or Davis' Bridge. Their infantry skirmished with us slightly to-day at Holman's and Binnaker's Bridges. With that exception all quiet along the line. Prisoners report infantry and artillery (Twentieth Corps) on the Holman and Duncan's Bridge road. The Fifteenth Corps near Branchville; am making every effort through scouts and citizens to ascertain their intentions.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 9, 1865—9.30 p. m.*

Generals HARDEE and MCLAWS:

The enemy has effected a crossing of the river between Binnaker's and Cannon's Bridges; in what number not stated. I will concentrate the forces at those fords and fight them in the swamp.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 9, 1865.

Colonel JOHNSON,
Commanding, Binnaker's:

COLONEL: I have ordered a brigade from Palmer's to re-enforce you to-night. Ascertain as soon as possible if the enemy are in force and advise me. Dislodge him if possible to do so. This effort must be made quickly to be successful.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CLAYTON'S DIVISION,
Ten Miles of Orangeburg, February 9, 1865—12.30 m.

General STEVENSON,
Orangeburg:

GENERAL: Your dispatch ordering to ascertain the enemy's force and dislodge him by the assistance of Palmer's brigade, met the troops of this division, under command of Colonel Johnson, six miles from the bridge which they were defending on the direct road to Orangeburg and the troops in confusion. Colonel Johnson is intoxicated. At the request of the different regimental commanders, I assume command of the troops until further orders from you. I shall continue moving slowly toward Orangeburg, for the following reasons: The enemy has crossed in considerable force, and since dark has driven back the skirmishers, and the command was ordered on the retreat with some confusion and haste. The enemy is still pursuing and in some force have gone above, taking the left hand near the river. Also Generals Deas and Palmer have been notified of the retreat and will govern them-

selves and regulate their movements accordingly. Captain Whitehead, assistant adjutant-general, has not been seen on the retreat, and Major Hull, of Sixty-sixth Georgia, was killed.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

J. C. GORDON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

GUIGNARD'S BRIDGE, S. C., *February 9, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Headquarters Armies of the Confederate States, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: I inclose copies of a number of orders issued to my command for the purpose of informing you what orders are issued to it. I now have positive proofs that the many and grave charges made against my command are basely false. I also have certificates from most of the citizens in neighborhoods where my command has been for some time past, saying they have no complaints whatever to make against my troops, and that no troops, not even those raised in their own neighborhood, ever treated them so well. I mention these things to show you how basely my command has been calumniated. I regret to say that my superior officers, with their staff officers, instead of defending me, have joined in the denunciations against my command, and thus enable the true culprits to escape detection. Notwithstanding all this trouble, the thing must work out right in the end. I have learned to wait patiently for things thus to work out.

With the highest regards, your obedient servant and friend,

J. WHEELER.

GUIGNARD'S BRIDGE, S. C., *February 9, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Headquarters Armies of the Confederate States, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: A few days since I forwarded to the War Department recommendations from the majority of the superior officers of my command, including all the division and brigade commanders, that my system of cavalry tactics be adopted by the Department. I could doubtless have obtained the recommendation of every officer in the command, but I did not desire to ask them. You will recollect that General Johnston ordered it to be used in the Army of Tennessee, and it is now used by all the cavalry of this department. My object in asking the Department to adopt it is, that I see that some system is to be adopted by it, and it would derange our system very much if any other system were adopted. Besides, the publishers inform me they could sell it at half the price if adopted by the War Department, which is a great object to my officers and men.

With highest regards, your obedient servant and friend,

J. WHEELER.

ORANGEBURG, S. C., *February 9, 1865—3.30 p. m.*

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: I am here with instructions from General Hardee for you, and hoping to meet a staff officer from you to-night. Understanding from General Stevenson that you moved with most of your force on yesterday toward Augusta, I write by courier. General Hardee's

instructions are that you send a force of 1,000 men to report to General McLaws at Branchville, to cover a retrograde movement of his force, if driven back from the Edisto. He also desires that you have a similar force in such position as to cover a retrograde movement (should it become necessary) of Lee's corps, Major-General Stevenson commanding. General Stevenson's headquarters are at Orangeburg for the present. This force must be in addition to Colonel Cook's regiment, which has been sent to Walterborough. Only one regiment (Fifth Tennessee), exclusive of Colonel Cook's, has yet reported at Branchville. General Stevenson understands that your movement toward Augusta is to meet a movement of the enemy on that place. These instructions of General Hardee were given before being apprised of any such movement. General Hardee desires you to be in constant communication with Major-General Stevenson through his nearest brigade commander, who has a line of couriers established to Orangeburg. General Hardee desires that you send a regiment to report to Major-General Stevenson for courier and other special service. Please dispatch the general the present position of your command. The enemy are in front of the Edisto line from New Bridge to Duncan's Bridge, their main force being on the railroad. No efforts yet made to cross. Scouts report them burning the railroad.

Very respectfully,

W. D. PICKETT,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Inspector-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 9, 1865—6 p. m.*

Major-General WHEELER, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: Hagan's brigade was badly stampeded at White Pond, and ran off causelessly. It is scattered in every direction, many even coming to Augusta. It seems to me that a concentration of your cavalry upon Kilpatrick would crush him. I have sent an order to Crews to unite with Hagan, and probably something will then be done, as he seems to have a better command. I hope that you will keep us constantly apprised of movements. Is there any infantry moving upon Augusta? I have had no report from Hagan whatever.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Near Orangeburg, February 9, 1865.

General WHEELER, *Commanding Cavalry:*

GENERAL: Your dispatch of yesterday received, and telegram to General Hardee dispatched. I have established a line of couriers from my right flank to this the nearest point by telegraph with General Hardee, and will take pleasure in forwarding any dispatches by mail or telegraph which you may wish to forward. Please communicate with me fully with regard to the movements of the enemy, and of yours so far as they may affect me. Do me the kindness to furnish General Deas with such couriers as may be necessary to connect his two stations—Holman's and Duncan's Bridges.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
Holman's Bridge, February 9, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: The enemy's scouts have appeared at this bridge and the bridge below. The bridges being destroyed I have no other information to give.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

Z. C. DEAS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
February 9, 1865.

General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: Colonel Johnson, at Binnaker's Bridge, reports to me that the enemy had forced the passage of the bridge, and at one hour after dark were about one mile and a half this side of the bridge. I have, in consequence, commenced to withdraw my command.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. C. DEAS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
Holman's Bridge, February 9, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward to you a dispatch just received from Orangeburg. Please send by courier a receipt for it. I will move my headquarters near to Duncan's Bridge after daylight. I hope you will keep me advised of the movements of the enemy, if you are not too far away. I will open communication with some of your officers nearer to me if I can.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. C. DEAS,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 9, 1865.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
Richmond:

The communication of His Excellency Governor Vance, of North Carolina, covering a resolution from the House of Commons of that State, on the subject of the treatment of slaves, referred by you, was received about the time of the commencement of active operations here. The subject was immediately referred to the responsible commanders for reports, the last of which have been but recently received. All the papers and reports are submitted for your information. It will be perceived that there has been much suffering among this class of employés

in this department. This has been owing in part to mismanagement and want of attention, but to a great extent it has been unavoidable from the nature of work, the means available, and the want of regulations in regard to supplies.

First. The work to be done, which has to a great extent been shared by our white soldiers during the war, was of such a character as necessarily to subject the laborers to much exposure, even if comfortably clothed. The revetment of works at the mouth of Cape Fear River being mostly of sod and very heavy, and the sod to be dug from the marsh, made it necessary for many of the negroes to work a good deal in the water, and so in rafting timber and lumber, and water transportation.

Second. From the insufficient quantity of food, soldiers' rations, one-quarter of a pound of meat and three-quarters of a pound of meal, is altogether insufficient for a laboring man employed all day in heavy work.

Third. From want of comfortable clothing. Most of the negroes were sent by their owners very badly clad, and little was done by those in charge of the slaves to remedy this evil. No provision was made by the War Department for clothing enrolled negroes until the publication of General Orders, No. 86, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, December 5, 1864. The act of February 17, 1864, General Orders, No. 82, March 11, 1864, paragraph I, provides that negroes shall receive rations, clothing, and compensation at the rate of $11 per month, under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of War may establish. Paragraph IV adopts the regulations of General Orders, No. 138, October 24, 1863. The last order in paragraph VII fixes the ration, compensation, &c., but makes no provision for clothing, and no regulation on this point was adopted until December 5, 1864.

Fourth. They have suffered for want of proper hospital accommodations, and at Fort Fisher for want of proper quarters and fuel. The evils pointed out have been remedied as far as practicable. Sufficient hospital accommodations are being prepared and proper medical attendance secured, and every effort will be made to provide for the comfort of the enrolled slaves consistently with the limited means in hand.

Many small abuses become known to owners and others which it is impossible for a commander to learn except through them. If they would make their complaints circumstantially, prompt investigation would be ordered and every remedy applied. Regular inspections, reports, and returns will be made of this laboring force in future, and they will be cared for as other troops.

Very respectfully, sir,

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 9, 1865.*

Col. JOHN B. SALE, *Richmond:*

Start to-morrow. Wait for me.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 9, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE, *Petersburg:*

I will start to-morrow.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 9, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg:

The enemy landed more troops at Fisher yesterday, including cavalry. Our force of this arm is very small.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 9, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg:

You will see by my dispatch of this morning that more cavalry is required here.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

SUGAR LOAF, *February 9, 1865.*

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I will be there. Everything quiet at present.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

FORT ANDERSON, *February 9, 1865.*

Colonel ANDERSON:

Does the commanding general prefer that I should communicate promptly, for what they are worth, reports received in such instances as that last night, or wait until I have proved their correctness before dispatching him on the subject?

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

Let me hear immediately all reports, but distinguish between those known to be true and mere rumors.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 9, 1865.

Brig. Gen. L. S. BAKER,
Goldsborough:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of 8th instant relative to movements of the enemy. Until information is received of some increase of their forces, it is not deemed prudent by the commanding general to remove troops from here, but all will be held ready to aid you. Our resources are small and must be cautiously used. General Bragg will be absent from the department for a few days, and leaves instructions with Major-General Hoke, who succeeds to the temporary command.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 9, 1865.*

Brigadier-General BAKER,
Goldsborough:

Enemy have landed troops for two days past at Fort Fisher. The movement in your front may be a demonstration. Keep advised.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

[FEBRUARY 10, 1865.—For Hardee to Davis, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1070.]

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 10, 1865.*

Maj. R. J. MOSES,
Commissary State of Georgia, Planters' Hotel:

MAJOR: Your letter received. The road to Washington has been ordered to be put in repair at once. I will see at once to the reception of the tithes. Be good enough to let me know where I can reach you by telegraph on leaving the city.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, February 10, 1865.

Mr. W. M. HIGHT:

SIR: I am instructed by General Beauregard to say that you are authorized to call upon the citizens adjacent to the Washington Branch, Georgia Railroad, for such lumber, wagons, and labor as they are willing to contribute for the repairs of that road, and for all of which the Government will pay a just compensation. Capt. L. P. Grant, engineer, has been requested to furnish you iron, spikes, &c., sufficient to place the road before mentioned in thorough repair. Inclosed is an order* directing the assistant commissary of subsistence at Barnett's Station and Washington to issue, upon your requisition, rations for 200 negro laborers.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 10, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

General Hardee is very anxious for you to come here, if only for one day, as you did in Savannah. It would be a great relief to him. He desires me so to inform you.

A. R. CHISOLM,
Aide-de-Camp.

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*Omitted.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 10, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

I have just arrived here. Will join you soon as practicable. Meanwhile I advise concentration from the Combahee to the Edisto line.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 10, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

I feel sure your presence here, if possible, would do great service at this juncture.

THOMAS JORDAN.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 10, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. THOMAS JORDAN,
Charleston, S. C.:

I will be in Charleston soon as practicable. Inform Chisolm to that effect.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, *February 10, 1865.*

Major-General MCLAWS:

When the necessity arises for your retirement bring with you that portion of Stevenson's command now reporting to you.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 10, 1865.*

General MCLAWS:

Conner's brigade is not to be withdrawn from its present position.

By order of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

H. W. FEILDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FLAG-SHIP CHARLESTON,
Charleston, February 10, 1865.

Brig. Gen. W. B. TALIAFERRO,
Comdg. 2d and 3d Sub. Dists. of South Carolina, Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: I have received your letter of this date. In reply I have to inform you that the marine guard of this squadron, under Lieut. A. S. Berry, C. S. Marine Corps, was ordered to report to Captain Tatnall, C. S. Marine Corps, the senior officer on this station, who had been directed by Flag-Officer Ingraham to report to you. In a conversation with Lieutenant-General Hardee this morning I mentioned this arrangement, with which he expressed himself satisfied. I have detailed the marine guard as the least injurious to the organization of the ships, but should it become imperatively necessary I will endeavor

to furnish you with more men, even if by so doing I further disorganize the ships. The officer in charge of the marines of the squadron was directed to march to James Island in the event of Captain Tatnall having left with his command.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. R. TUCKER,
Flag-Officer, Commanding, Afloat.

NOTE.—I am now going on board ship, and if the guard have not left I will notify you where they will be to receive transportation.

J. R. T.

BATTERY NO. 2, *February 10, 1865—2.05 p. m.*

General TALIAFERRO:

In reply to your specific inquiry I sent you Major Manigault's report. I now send you Major Warley's from Secessionville:

Transport loaded with troops came from the south and west into Cole's Island Inlet, 1 monitor in Stono, 2 gun-boats, 1 mortar-boat, and 3 transports into Schooner Creek, near Dixon's Island Battery. Enemy's lines extend from lower Legare house to Grimball's Causeway. About five regiments have landed on this island, also two gun-boats in Stono River.

F. F. WARLEY,
Major, Commanding.

This is the full information I have.

S. ELLIOTT,
Brigadier-General.

BATTERY NO. 2, *February 10, 1865—6.35 p. m.*

General HARDEE:

The enemy have driven in my picket-line, who have fallen back to the line rifle-pits. Enemy slowly advancing. Major Manigault reported killed. Only 430 re-enforcements have arrived.

S. ELLIOTT,
Brigadier-General.

(Same to General Taliaferro.)

BATTERY NO. 2, *February 10, 1865.*

General TALIAFERRO:

I mean the rifle-pits 400 yards in front of the main line. Another skirmish line has been sent forward under Major White, with orders to meet the enemy and check him. This line has not yet found the enemy. Major Warley reports the enemy who drove us back to-day as four regiments 2,000 strong, and three regiments still around Legare's lower house. No change in fleet.

S. ELLIOTT,
Brigadier-General.

CITY, *February 10, 1865—12 m.*

Colonel RHETT, *Battery Bee:*

Order Young's dismounted men to report to Lieutenant Elliott, James Island, at once. A steamer will be at Mount Pleasant for them.

P. N. PAGE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY, *February 10, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

Colonel RHETT,
Battery Bee:

Send Captain Le Gardeur to James Island. Send to McCormick's Landing at once and stop the steamer for him if it is still there.

TALIAFERRO,
General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865—3.30 a. m.*

Governor MAGRATH:

The enemy have effected a lodgment at Binnaker's, which will probably force us to retire from that line.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865—6 a. m.*

General MCLAWS:

I am now satisfied that they are advancing in force from the river. I will guard the North Edisto and keep you advised.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865—6 a. m.*

General MCLAWS:

If I have to abandon the South Edisto, now probable, I will cross Palmer at Rowe's Bridge, and hold the North Branch as long as possible.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

(Same to General Hardee.)

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865—8.15 a. m.*

General HARDEE:

We have been unable to dislodge the enemy at Binnaker's, and the troops are retiring slowly before them. I will hold the North Edisto as long as possible.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

(Same to Governor Magrath and General McLaws.)

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865.*

General MCLAWS:

The enemy has driven the troops from Binnaker's and they are retiring on this point. Palmer had gone to their assistance and may check them. Have ordered Rowe's Bridge to be burned whenever Palmer passes it.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865—10 a. m.*

General HARDEE, *Charleston:*

I am withdrawing to the line of the North Edisto. I think the enemy will endeavor to strike the Columbia road to-day or to-morrow. I have no cavalry to cover my troops; not now sufficient number of scouts.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865—10.45 a. m.*

General MCLAWS:

It is important that Cumming's brigade should join me at once; send it immediately by train held in reserve at Branchville for it. One division being detached, I need it to hold the North Edisto. I think the enemy will try to strike the Columbia road to-day. Send me part of the Tennessee cavalry regiment now at Branchville. I have no cavalry and the roads in my front and flanks are open.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865.*

General MCLAWS:

Send some cavalry to guard the North Edisto. From Rowe's Bridge to its mouth it is uncovered.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865.*

General MCLAWS:

I have a courier-line to Branchville. Inform me by letter of your plans as to holding Branchville, that I may co-operate. I shall hold the North Edisto as long as possible or until you retire.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 10, 1865.*

General MCLAWS:

One train is in reserve to cross my command over the Congaree if I desire it. I control none other. I was not advised that you need supplies. Upon inquiring I learn that meal was sent to you this morning.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 10, 1865—10.30 p. m.*

Major-General STEVENSON:

Direct Wheeler to bring over the Edisto a large body of cavalry—say 2,000—to protect your movements, and McLaws to hold on to the North Edisto as long as possible. I want the part of your command now with McLaws to retire with him toward Four Hole Swamp. I will send them to you by rail.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

Abstract from tri-monthly return of the division commanded by Maj. Gen. Lafayette McLaws, C. S. Army, for February 10, 1865. (a)

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.				Horses.	Field.
Hardy's brigade	52	841	812	1,190	2,097	.....	.....
Harrison's brigade	56	702	685	1,025	1,782	.....	.....
Fiser's brigade	53	809	803	1,041	2,592	.....	.....
Reserve brigade	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Conner's brigade	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Artillery	11	318	313	377	458	152	12
Cavalry	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grand total	172	2,670	2,613	3,633	6,929	152	12

a The Third and Fifteenth South Carolina Regiments and Third Battalion South Carolina Volunteers, of Conner's brigade, effective total 450, report to General McLaws temporarily; also Brooks' battery, 105 effective. The above are not included in the aggregate of this return.

Organization of the division commanded by Maj. Gen. Lafayette McLaws, C. S. Army, February 10, 1865.

Hardy's Brigade.

Col. WASHINGTON M. HARDY.

7th North Carolina Reserves.
10th North Carolina Battalion.
50th North Carolina Regiment.

Harrison's Brigade.

Col. GEORGE P. HARRISON, JR.

5th Georgia Regiment.
32d Georgia Regiment.
47th Georgia Regiment.
1st South Carolina Cavalry.

Fiser's Brigade.

Col. JOHN C. FISER.

1st Georgia Regulars.
27th Georgia Battalion.
2d Battalion Georgia Reserves.
5th Georgia Reserves.
6th Georgia Reserves.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 10, 1865—4.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General PALMER:

Should you find that the troops on the Binnaker's road have been driven back, and that the enemy cannot be held at Snake or Cooper's Swamp, you will cross the North Edisto at Rowe's Bridge, and hold it to cross troops from Branchville. There is a line of couriers from Branchville to this place. In case the enemy cannot be driven back, and it should be necessary to fall back on this place, do so slowly, checking the enemy as long as possible. Keep your men well in hand; communicate with me often and freely. If you are compelled to retire hold Cooper's Swamp with sufficient force, and move the remainder of

your forces to opposite Rowe's Bridge, at the forks of the roads leading from that point to the Binnaker's Bridge road with that from Orangeburg. Ascertain as soon as possible thereafter the condition of affairs on the road from Binnaker's Bridge, and if necessary cross the North Edisto at Rowe's Bridge. The river is well guarded here, and your flank would then be well protected.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 10, 1865.

Major-General PALMER,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I regret that you did not hold the forks of the road as I desired. I intend to hold the North Edisto as long as possible, and you will please take position at Rowe's Bridge with that view. Watch closely the points above and below it, and concentrate a sufficient force to check an attempt to cross until I can re-enforce you or prepare for a further move. I have increased the couriers on your line. Communicate with General McLaws, to co-operate with him in the defense of the river.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CANNON'S BRIDGE,
February 10, 1865—2.20 p. m.

Major-General CLAYTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have received verbal notice from Colonel Johnson, commanding at Binnaker's, that the enemy have crossed in force about one mile below him, and that he was falling back slowly. Just afterward I received orders from General Stevenson to send a brigade to Johnson. I shall fall back at least as far as Rowe's Bridge with the remaining force.

I am, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. B. PALMER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 10, 1865—3 p. m.*

Major-General CHEATHAM,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The preservation of the factory at Graniteville is of great importance to the Confederacy as well as to the security of your line. Do you think it prudent to send 500 men so far out? If the operator at Aiken has brought off his instruments, you might put up a station at Big Horse Creek.

Respectfully,
D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 10, 1865—4 p. m.*

Major-General WHEELER:

GENERAL: Your dispatches, 7.40 p. m. 9th, and 10.05 p. m. 9th, both came together this moment. General Allen has lost Aiken. Cheatham is on Big Horse Creek. Why do your couriers travel so slow?

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, S. C., February 10, 1865.

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Stevenson to say that we have been obliged to abandon the South Edisto, and are now holding the North Edisto. General Deas has been ordered to retire in the direction of Columbia, as far as to where that road crosses the North Edisto. You will order half the cavalry that is to report to General S. to report to General Deas at the point above mentioned, to cover his front and protect his right flank. The other half to report at these headquarters, coming by the nearest practicable route.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 10, 1865—2.30 p. m.*

General ALLEN:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 8.30 a. m. has just reached me. There must be some great negligence on the courier-line. It is important that we should know certainly whether infantry is with the Yankee column, and in what strength. General Cheatham with infantry is on Big Horse Creek. Important movements should be reported promptly to him.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

P. S.—Could you not bring Crews' men to your assistance and beat Kilpatrick?

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 10, 1865.*

Col. R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

SIR: I have the honor respectfully to report that in obedience to your instructions, received Mobile, 15th of January, 1865, to inspect "all cavalry commands detached from General Hood's army in Georgia, especially Iverson's brigade, and all cavalry in Alabama," I repaired at once to Georgia, as the case of Capt. G. S. Cecil, acting commissary of subsistence, Iverson's brigade, seemed to ask for prompt attention. On my arrival I found that all the cavalry detached from General Hood's army had passed from Georgia into South Carolina except

Brig. Gen. Alfred Iverson's division and Brigadier-General Ferguson's brigade. Iverson's proper brigade is not included in his division command, but is commanded by Colonel Crews and incorporated in Brigadier-General Allen's division, now in South Carolina. Captain Cecil's case has been investigated and the papers returned to you through Col. E. J. Harvie, assistant adjutant and inspector general, Army of Tennessee. The troops which were inspected are the Third, Fourth, Sixth, Ninth Kentucky Regiments, mounted infantry of Brig. Gen. Jos. H. Lewis' brigade, and the Fifty-third Alabama Regiment, Twenty-fourth Alabama Battalion, Eleventh Georgia Regiment, and the Roswell (Georgia) Battalion, of Col. M. W. Hannon's brigade, all of Iverson's division. The rosters of these regiments are forwarded herewith, as also a list of the officers of the general staff belonging to them. Returns of the two brigades accompany this letter. The absent commissioned officers are accounted for on the rosters. The rosters of the Kentucky brigade are imperfect because the regimental records were inaccessible. A circular from General Wheeler, copy inclosed, directing that all men absent without leave more than seven days be dropped from the rolls, has caused some misunderstanding. Should not such men be accounted for on the returns as deserted, and only officers as "dropped" who may have been absent without leave or are incompetent, deserters being accounted for on the muster-rolls also? It is remarked that the muster-rolls in Hannon's brigade are not correctly made out, and that the inspecting officer failed to affix his signature or fill out the remarks. The blank forms of returns in this division are not all uniform with those of other troops. It is respectfully suggested that an order issue from your office prescribing the form of all service blanks, and exacting compliance with notes printed upon them all; the numbering of the columns is highly useful, and the notes might indicate in detail the information required in each column. The headings, "extra duty," and "absent detached service," are frequently misused. Regimental commanders and assistant adjutants-general seem not to know the manner of returning officers and men on detached duty at general headquarters. General Iverson fails to report all officers and men permanently on detached duty at his headquarters. The most notable defect in this division is the want of proper organization. There are but few staff officers at the general headquarters, and none but adjutants and some surgeons with regiments.

General Iverson is detached from his own brigade, now Crews', to command these two brigades in another division, and has no general staff officers except Captain Byrd, assistant commissary of subsistence, recently assigned by order of Lieutenant-General Hardee. Colonel Hannon's brigade was organized last April, but his application for staff officers was not approved, on the ground that the brigade was not a permanent organization. The only officer of the general staff serving with him is Captain Dickinson, assistant quartermaster, Fifty-third Alabama. Besides rendering more difficult the enforcement of discipline, the want of staff officers is one cause of the discontent of the people of Georgia, who have been much annoyed with irregular receipts given by line officers ignorant of their duty. In this connection it is proper to remark that the agent allowed by act of Congress (General Order 54, 1864), to audit claims in each Congressional district has not appeared in Burke and Screven Counties, Ga., traversed by our cavalry in November and December, 1864. This division has never been officially organized in orders, nor has it ever been inspected, either as a division or by brigades; no inspection reports of any kind have

been made since September. The Kentucky troops were regularly inspected when infantry, but have been neglected since mounted. It is, therefore, not remarkable that all departments of the staff are irregularly administered in some particulars. Descriptive lists of horses are not found in Lewis' brigade, and but imperfect ones in Hannon's. Subsistence is issued to the commissary-sergeants, there being no regimental commissaries or quartermasters, upon the adjutants' verbal statements, through the sergeant, of the number of men and officers, and provision returns and receipts are only signed two or three times a month on averaged statements, instead of morning reports. It is impossible to find the number of private animals foraged, as forage is issued on requisition for all stock as "public animals," and only signed once a month on averaged statements. The transportation, both wagons and teams, of Lewis' brigade, being nearly new, is in excellent condition. Hannon's wagons are in fair order, but the teams seem weak, and are much jaded by incessant labor; they could be better groomed than they are. No captured property, either horses, equipments, or arms, are ever turned over to the officers of the staff. Great embarrassment is occasioned in the quartermaster and commissary departments by the want of ready funds. Cavalry in motion must subsist on the country they occupy, and should have cash or bonded officers numerous enough to accompany detached parties. The people of Georgia can obtain much more for their produce when delivered to certain agents of the commissary department (Major Cranston, at Augusta, for instance) than when it is impressed by cavalry officers at schedule prices, hence arises much discontent.

In the latter part of January commissaries in the field were paying schedule prices, when Major Cranston was authorized to pay $14 or $15 per bushel for corn. The efficiency of the division is much impaired by details (see absent, detached service, most of such absentees being able-bodied men, with the best horses and arms) acting as guards, escorts, couriers, &c. General Iverson has two lieutenants and sixty-two men at his headquarters as provost guards and couriers. I would recommend a judicious system of furloughing for this as well as all other commands, and not to be interrupted in even ordinarily active movements. With an aggregate of 1,473, Hannon's brigade has 38 absent with leave, while Lewis' brigade, with 1,066, has 192. The general orders from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office are seldom promulgated. General Orders, No. 75, 1864, announcing average price of rations sold to officers, has not been received. Captain Byrd, assistant commissary of subsistence, sells pork at 75 cents per pound, fresh beef 53 cents net, and corn at $2.25 per bushel. The orders regarding the dropping of absent and incompetent officers, and the retirement of disabled officers and men, were not found at division headquarters, nor well understood there or in Hannon's brigade. Lists of absent officers and men are not sent to the Bureau of Conscription from this division. Attention is invited to the evident neglect of orders and discipline by the frequent granting of permission to men to ride their horses on other than public business. In the matter of organization, General Beauregard's order, dated December 29, 1864, promising to merge those brigades with the largest number of absentees into those with the least, will, if executed, be very beneficial in reducing the number of commands and the necessity for more staff officers, and cause little inconvenience, as the number of brigadier-generals exceeds but slightly the number of divisions said to be in the cavalry corps. Attention is attracted to the large proportion of mules in the cavalry; fully one-

quarter of this division is mounted on them. Permit me strongly to recommend mounting all cavalry on public horses, and the retention of these mules for transportation purposes.

It is believed that division and brigade commanders do not give sufficient personal attention to the individuals and material of their commands. Morning reports are made but three times a month. Books and records seem to be incomplete; soldiers do not appear to be charged on the muster and pay rolls with articles lost or injured. There are no recitations in army regulations. The health of the division is remarkably good. The brigade commanded by Brig. Gen. Jos. H. Lewis is composed of the Second, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Ninth Kentucky Regiments Infantry, which were mounted, both men and officers, by order of General Hood, on public animals, mostly horses, but many of them mules, which have been receipted for by the acting brigade quartermaster. The brigade lacks about 200 horses to complete its mounting. The men who need these horses are acting as infantry. The horse equipments are generally in good order, and were mostly issued from Government workshops; a detail of the men is making up the deficiency by constructing excellent saddles.

It is gratifying to report that there are but few absentees without leave from this brigade. General Lewis reports that he has never been able to effect the retirement of either officers or men for want of action at superior headquarters. The brigade train was so far distant that it was impossible to examine the responsibility of the officers of the staff. The brigade has a sufficiency of clothing, which is kept clean, and is well supplied with blankets. There is a marked deficiency of spurs. There are 396 serviceable and 51 unserviceable animals in the brigade. They are in ordinary plight and ordinarily well groomed. Currycombs and brushes are much needed.

The arms of the brigade are with few exceptions uniform in kind and caliber, and nearly all serviceable, but there is a deficiency of about one-twelfth. The condition of the arms is generally dirty. Accouterments are in good condition, but a deficiency of about one-sixth exists. Ammunition is well preserved, but not uniformly distributed. The military bearing of the brigade may be said to be soldierly, but their appearance, mounted and dismounted, is indifferent. Discipline is lax; men are inattentive on parade and also at drill, which is indifferently performed; officers and men need instruction in cavalry tactics. In the Second Kentucky Regiment there is a surplus of officers, but none are found to be elected since the promulgation of General Orders, No. 53. The Sixth Kentucky Regiment has eight companies, but originally numbered ten. The Ninth Kentucky has six companies, although it originally had ten. Two companies of Tennessee troops were transferred by General Bragg, at Murfreesborough, in December, 1862, under the order to aggregate troops into regiments from their own States, and two others were detached by order from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office to form a battalion under Major Desha in Western Virginia. Col. M. W. Hannon's command is composed of the Fifty-third Alabama Regiment, Twenty-fourth Alabama Battalion, Eleventh Georgia Regiment, and the Roswell (Georgia) Battalion. It has never been permanently brigaded, but was organized by General Roddey, under the orders of General Wheeler, and originally comprised the Fifty-third Alabama Regiment, Moreland's regiment, Williams' battalion, and the Twenty-fourth Alabama Battalion. No staff officers have been assigned to Colonel Hannon. As before mentioned, no inspection reports have been furnished. There were no blank forms found with

the command. The list of absentees have not been habitually forwarded to the Bureau of Conscription, because the general orders on this and other matters have not in many instances been promulgated to the command. This brigade has been constantly on duty for several months. Many horses have been broken down and sent to the recruiting camps at Montgomery and in the rear of the division. There are 664 serviceable and 122 unserviceable animals in the command; many of them need shoeing.

The brigade seems to perform picket and outpost duty with great zeal and success. The company books and records are not generally complete, and there are no evidences of accountability for ordnance stores on the part of regimental commanders, nor do the men appear to be charged on the muster and pay rolls with losses of public property. The officers appear to be intelligent, but not as efficient as greater industry would cause them to be. Throughout the brigade spurs are deficient. The Fifty-third Alabama has ten companies. They appear attentive on inspection, but their bearing will not be called soldierly. They dress negligently, although their clothing is sufficient and good. Personally the regiment is cleanly. The animals look worn, and are not very well groomed; many are puny, and only held to retain their owners in cavalry service. The proportion of mules is large. Arms are not clean enough, and there is a deficiency; the caliber and kind are not entirely uniform. Ammunition is generally well cared for. There is a deficiency of accouterments. Horse equipments are in ordinary good condition; more are needed. Currycombs are deficient. Discipline appears to be somewhat better in this than other parts of the brigade. The regiment drills moderately well. Company descriptive lists of animals are correctly kept. The Twenty-fourth Alabama Battalion has three companies, was organized in February, 1864, and is chiefly composed of youths, who are healthy and robust, but lack a military air. They were inattentive at inspection, and do not appear to be under good discipline. There is not enough distinction between officers and men. Many men are unarmed, but expect to be supplied soon. Such arms as were inspected are of irregular calibers, indifferent in kind, and in bad order. Some are unserviceable. There is a great deficiency in the number of accouterments, especially of cap pouches. Horse equipments are in very bad condition; currycombs are much needed. Horses are not numerous or strong, mules being greatly in excess. The animals are not well groomed. The drill is indifferently executed. Spurs are needed. The Eleventh Georgia Regiment, originally the Thirtieth Georgia Battalion (seven companies), is reported to have been raised to a regiment of ten companies, by authority of the War Department, from such men as could be obtained in Northeast Georgia. Many deserters from other commands joined this regiment, and though some have been returned, others remain. Private Mitchell (properly of the Sixteenth Georgia, now a courier for Colonel Hannon) is one. The regiment was organized about October 25, 1864, near Athens, Ga., but when ordered from there to its present station many absented themselves. About ninety officers and men appeared on inspection. They are fine-looking youths, but do not present a military appearance. Discipline is lax; most of the captains are absent on detached service, and there is not enough distinction between officers and privates. The men are well clad and have a sufficiency of blankets, but are quite uncleanly. The regiment was at first armed with Cook's Enfield, which the men do not esteem, and say are easily broken. Many have been

lost and broken, but are not charged to the men. At present arms are deficient in number, not uniform in kind or caliber, some are broken, and nearly all of them dirty. Horse equipments are in bad order, and there is a deficiency of currycombs. The animals are mostly lean and puny, chiefly mules and but few well groomed. Many are only excuses to escape infantry service. Accouterments are deficient. Ammunition is not evenly distributed, and there is none for some calibers, as Spence's rifles, a Virginia musket 1814, &c. Descriptive lists of animals are correctly kept. The Roswell Battalion being all on picket duty could not be inspected. It is composed of two companies, and has no field or staff. Company A is composed of men who were operatives in the mills at Roswell, Ga., and organized into a battalion of 140 men, infantry, artillery, and cavalry, under the act for local defense.

When Roswell fell into the hands of the enemy Captain King, commanding battalion, was ordered to report to Brig. Gen. M. J. Wright, who reorganized the local battalion into a permanent company, ordered the pieces of artillery to be turned into the arsenal at Atlanta, and mounted the men. At the surrender of Atlanta Captain King was ordered to report to General Cobb, and by him to General Iverson, who assigned the company to Hannon's brigade. This company was reorganized by consent of Colonel Browne, chief of conscription, State of Georgia, at the request of General Cobb. The men at present in Company A have never belonged to companies in the field, but were all detailed by the Conscript Bureau. Such as were detailed from the field deserted. Muster-rolls of the reorganization were forwarded through General Cobb, and at the same time lists of the deserters were furnished to the Bureau of Conscription. Though mustered as mounted, many of the men have never been mounted. Arms are deficient in number and not uniform in kind in both Company A and Company B. Company B, commanded by Captain Zachry, was mustered into service 1st September, 1864, by Captain King, who received authority from General Cobb to add a company to his command. It is composed of youths between fifteen and eighteen years of age. It is said to be the desire of Company A to be attached to the Twenty-fourth Alabama Battalion. I have no means of ascertaining why Company A should not be distributed among the regular troops and Company B attached to a regiment of Georgia State Reserves. The attention of the commanding officer of the District of Georgia has been invited to many of the above-mentioned deficiencies and to the cases of certain officers who should be retired or dropped. General Iverson's troops are actively engaged as scouts and on picket duty from Sister's Ferry, on the Savannah River, to the mouth of the Altamaha, the Fifth Kentucky Regiment Mounted Infantry, and the Roswell (Georgia) Battalion being so distant and scattered that they could not be reached. Ferguson's brigade being on the right of the Altamaha, near Hawkinsville, and engaged on a march which would consume two weeks, with a probability of being continued much longer, could not be inspected. It being impossible to obtain blank inspection reports in Georgia or Alabama, this report has been furnished without their aid. In view of the obstacles to inspecting the few troops at present in Georgia I have determined to return to Alabama. Letters will reach me at Mobile, in care of Maj. Gen. D. H. Maury.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. DEVEREUX,

Major and Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 14. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, *Wilmington, February 10, 1865.*

I. The means of transportation in this department for operations in the field will be distributed as follows: Army headquarters, one 4-horse wagon; inspector-general and assistants, one 4-horse wagon; chief quartermaster and chief commissary and assistants, one 4-horse wagon; chief ordnance officer and assistants, one 4-horse wagon; chief engineer and assistants, one 4-horse wagon; medical director and assistants, one 4-horse wagon; division headquarters, two 4-horse wagons and one 6-horse wagon; brigade headquarters, one 4-horse wagon; military court, one 4-horse wagon. The transportation for division and brigade headquarters includes the personal staff, engineers, signal corps, and medical officers, and other officers of the general staff, except those hereinafter mentioned. Chief quartermaster and chief commissary of division, with assistants, one 4-horse wagon; regimental headquarters, including field and staff and company officers, one 4-horse wagon; division headquarters, for forage for animals, two 4-horse wagons; brigade headquarters, for forage for animals, three 4-horse wagons; pioneer party and provost guard of division, one 4-horse wagon; each regiment exceeding 500 men actually present, for cooking utensils, two 4-horse wagons; each regiment not exceeding 500 men, for cooking utensils, one 4-horse wagon; each division, for medical supplies, one 4-horse wagon; each brigade, for medical supplies, one 4-horse wagon; to every 375 men, for ordnance supplies in brigade train, one 4-horse wagon; to same in division train, one 4-horse wagon; headquarters, each artillery battalion, including quartermaster and surgeon, one 4-horse wagon; company officers, each artillery battalion, one 4-horse wagon; each artillery battalion, for medical supplies, one 2-horse wagon; every 500 men actually present, for cooking utensils, one 4-horse wagon; each battery of artillery, for forage and commissary supplies, one 2-horse wagon.

II. The general supply train and transportation for blacksmith's tools are not affected by this order.

III. The transportation will be the same for cavalry as for infantry, with the following exceptions: To every 200 horses in each brigade, for forage, one 4-horse wagon; each squadron, for shoeing tools, one pack-mule; each regiment for ammunition, one pack-mule.

IV. All wagons in excess of the foregoing allowance will be immediately turned over to the chief quartermaster, who is especially charged with the execution of this order.

By order of General Bragg:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 10, 1865.*

General S. COOPER, *Adjutant and Inspector General:*

In the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, there are 106 guns, now organized and equipped as mounted artillery. Of these, all but three batteries, twelve guns, are at this time serving in South Carolina. Each of these batteries consists of four guns, &c., but there are no general or field officers serving with them. I propose to inspect these several batteries early next week, wherever they may be, with a view to their organization, in accordance with your instructions. I deem it, however, of great importance that a brigadier-general be at once appointed to their command, and Lieutenant-General Har-

dee, commanding the department, concurring, I respectfully recommend for this position Col. A. J. Gonzales, for more than two years and a half chief of artillery of this department, and now the senior colonel of artillery.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

J. C. PEMBERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Artillery, &c.

[First indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded approved.

Colonel Gonzales is chief of artillery in this department, and his long experience, his thorough and practical knowledge of artillery, and his great industry and zeal, fully entitle him to the position of brigadier-general of artillery.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

Respectfully submitted to Hon. Secretary of War.

JOHN W. RIELY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Abstract from return of the Department of North Carolina, Maj. Gen. Robert F. Hoke, C. S. Army, commanding, for February 10, 1865.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.
	Officers.	Men.				
STAFF.						
General	6	1	1	7	13	.....
Second District	9	3	3	12	12	.....
Third District	4	.....	.....	4	11	.....
Total	19	4	4	23	36	.....
INFANTRY.						
Second District	163	2,229	2,318	2,622	5,309	.....
Third District	79	1,093	1,236	1,408	2,282	.....
Hoke's division	380	4,586	4,826	5,568	11,823	.....
Total	622	7,908	8,380	9,598	19,414	.....
HEAVY ARTILLERY.						
Second District	7	165	198	249	457	.....
Third District	17	189	310	354	461	.....
Total	24	354	508	603	918	.....
LIGHT ARTILLERY.						
Second District	18	527	561	624	806	20
Third District	20	532	571	612	732	25
Total	38	1,059	1,132	1,236	1,538	45
CAVALRY.						
Second District	29	455	488	538	695	.....
Third District	31	546	574	646	908	.....
Total	60	1,001	1,062	1,184	1,603	.....
Engineer troops	3	82	83	93	98	.....
Signal Corps	1	31	31	32	38	.....
Grand total	767	10,439	11,200	12,769	23,645	45

NOTE.—General Bragg is absent under orders.

Organization of troops in the Department of North Carolina, Maj. Gen. Robert F. Hoke, C. S. Army, commanding, February 10, 1865.

SECOND MILITARY DISTRICT.

Brig. Gen. LAWRENCE S. BAKER.

First Sub-District, Goldsborough, N. C.

Col. STEPHEN D. POOL.

3d Junior Reserves, Lieut. Col. William F. French.
Senior Reserves (battalion), Maj. Boaz F. Hooks.
Senior Reserves (one company), Capt. J. Dawson.
Senior Reserves (one company), * Capt. John B. Griswold.
10th North Carolina, Company F, Lieut. Richard W. Evans.
Kelly's battery (detachment), Lieut. W. A. Evans.

Third Sub-District, Fort Branch.

Col. FRANK S. ARMISTEAD.

1st Junior Reserves, Lieut. Col. Charles W. Broadfoot.
68th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Edward C. Yellowley.
6th North Carolina Cavalry, Companies A and F, Capt. Barton R. Brown.
Dickson's battery (Company E, 13th Battalion), Capt. Henry Dickson.
Lee's (Alabama) battery, Capt. Edgar J. Lee
10th North Carolina Artillery (detachments Companies B, G, and H), Capt. Daniel Cogdell.

Second Sub-District, Kinston.

Col. JOHN N. WHITFORD.

67th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Rufus W. Wharton.
Provost Guard, Capt. Allen Croom.
8th Georgia Cavalry, Company G, Capt. Patrick Gray.
6th North Carolina Cavalry, Maj. John J. Spann.
13th North Carolina Battalion Light Artillery, Lieut. Col. Joseph B. Starr.

Fourth Sub-District, Weldon.

Col. WILLIAM F. MARTIN.

2d Junior Reserves, Col. John H. Anderson.
1st Battalion Junior Reserves, Maj. David T. Millard.
Strange's cavalry company, Capt. James W. Strange.
10th North Carolina Artillery (detachment Company K), Lieut. John M. Blount.
Webb's Light Battery (Company A, 13th Battalion), Capt. Lewis H. Webb.

THIRD MILITARY DISTRICT.

Fort Anderson.

Col. JOHN J. HEDRICK.

40th North Carolina (six companies), Maj. William A. Holland.
1st North Carolina Battalion, Company Coast Guard (unattached), North Carolina Troops, 36th North Carolina. — Lieut. Col. John D. Taylor, 36th North Carolina Regiment.

Light Artillery.

3d North Carolina Battalion, Company A, Capt. Andrew J. Ellis.
3d North Carolina Battalion, Company B, Capt. William Badham, jr.
3d North Carolina Battalion (detachments), Company C, Lieut. Alfred M. Darden.
10th North Carolina (detachment), Company I, Capt. Thomas J. Southerland.
Sampson Artillery, Capt. Abner A. Moseley.
Staunton Hill (Virginia) Battery, Capt. Andrew B. Paris.

Post of Wilmington.

Col. GEORGE JACKSON.

2d North Carolina Battalion (one company), Capt. Armand L. De Rosset.
8th North Carolina Senior Reserves, Col. Almond A. McKoy.

Batteries at the obstructions.

Col. PETER C. GAILLARD.

13th North Carolina, Company D (detachment) McDougald's unattached company, Capt. W. J. McDougald.
Naval detachments.

* Serving as provost guard.

ENGINEER TROOPS.

2d Engineers, Company A, Capt. JOHN C. WINDER.

SIGNAL CORPS.

Lieut. GEORGE C. BAIN.

CAVALRY.

2d South Carolina, Col. THOMAS J. LIPSCOMB.

HOKE'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. ROBERT F. HOKE.

Clingman's Brigade.

8th North Carolina.
31st North Carolina.
51st North Carolina.
61st North Carolina.

Colquitt's Brigade.

Col. CHARLES T. ZACHRY.

6th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Sampson W. Harris.
19th Georgia, Col. James H. Neal.
23d Georgia.
27th Georgia.
28th Georgia.

Hagood's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHNSON HAGOOD.

7th South Carolina Battalion, Lieut. Col. James H. Rion.
11th South Carolina, Col. F. Hay Gantt.
21st South Carolina, Col. Robert F. Graham.
25th South Carolina, Col. Charles H. Simonton.
27th South Carolina.

Kirkland's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM W. KIRKLAND.

17th North Carolina.
42d North Carolina, Col. John E. Brown.
50th North Carolina.
66th North Carolina, Col. John H. Nethercutt.

[FEBRUARY 11, 1865.—For General Orders No. 2, from headquarters Armies of the Confederate States, granting pardon to deserters, &c., see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 1229.]

[FEBRUARY 11, 1865.—For General Orders, No. 4, from headquarters Armies of the Confederate States, relating to men leaving their proper commands to join others, &c., see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 1230.]

[FEBRUARY 11, 1865.—For Beauregard to Cooper (two dispatches), reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1047.]

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

Prisoners are still here and at Florence. They should be removed forthwith to a safe locality.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

General S. COOPER,
Richmond, Va.:

It is deemed best that prisoners at Florence be sent to Salisbury rather than prison near this place. General Bragg can probably furnish 500 men to guard them. Please give the necessary orders.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 11, 1865.*

General W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Your telegrams of the 9th and 10th received. The indications suggest Charleston as the objective point, and if you have supplies inside the works and General Beauregard has the hoped-for success in concentrating the army and in raising auxiliary forces in Georgia and South Carolina, the attempt of the enemy will, I hope, be reduced to operations on the sea front and be finally defeated.

Your wishes in regard to Generals Allen and Mercer have been noted and inquiry made for a good brigadier of Georgia who is unassigned. In the meantime you will please send on a nomination, as I may not find one. Where is Major-General Martin, of the cavalry? Why is he not in command of his division?

JEFF'N DAVIS.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

Hampton having no troops yet to operate with I have placed him in command of this city and vicinity.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

By late movements of the enemy it is apparent that he intends to move upon Charleston, or to cut off your communications along the Northeastern Railroad. It is therefore advisable that you proceed to execute as soon as possible the movement agreed upon the 2d instant. Guard well your left flank and the crossings of the Santee.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

Do you direct that the agreement made on the 2d instant be carried into effect immediately? Please answer at once.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Having much to attend to here and having given you my views relative to your future movements, I do not deem it necessary to visit Charleston now, especially being unwell to-day. I have ordered Wheeler to support Stevenson, and Cheatham to come here soon as practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

My dispatch was written under supposition you still held lower Combahee line, and I advised shortening your coast line to the Edisto, thence to Branchville, in anticipation of other movement since recommended.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, *February 11, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Send here soon as practicable the siege-train guns and all available rifled guns on siege carriages, with their ammunition.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

Should General Ripley be still in Charleston inquire for reason he has not joined his brigade in Augusta, and order him there forthwith, via Columbia. Should he disobey, send him in arrest.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Have you constructed a bridge across Santee above or below Northeastern Railroad bridge? Use ferry and rice boats along that river.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

Order all ferry-boats along Santee destroyed or sunk along north bank of river, if not required for bridge above or below Northeastern Railroad bridge.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

General Hood is not in Columbia.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[FEBRUARY 11, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1070.]

CITY, *February 11, 1865—10.15 p. m.*

Fleet-Officer TUCKER,
Ram Charleston:

Enemy attacked Simkins to-night. Barges reported between Morris Island and Fort Johnson. Please send out your iron-clads and drive them off.

HARDEE,
General.

CHARLESTON, *February 11, 1865—1.35 p. m.*

Col. W. D. PICKETT:

What is the condition of affairs on your front; and what news from Wheeler's cavalry?

WM. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 11, 1865.

Lieut. F. M. HALL,
Engineer Corps, Adams' Run, S. C.:

Proceed to Parker's Ferry with your force to defend the crossing. Make no clearing except underbrush and no work heavier than rifle pits. Bring your force to city as soon as this is finished for discharge.

W. H. ECHOLS,
Major and Chief of Engineers.

CITY, *February 11, 1865—7 a. m.*

Colonel RHETT,
Battery Bee:

Send Le Gardeur's battery as soon as possible.

P. N. PAGE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

BATTERY BEE, *February 11, 1865—4.15 p. m.*

Colonel RHETT,
Corner Vanderhorst and Thomas Streets, City.

General Pemberton will be at Fort Sumter at dark this p. m.

P. N. PAGE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

BIRDS' PLACE,
Two Miles from Royal's, February 11, 1865—12 m.

Captain HEYWARD:

CAPTAIN: We advanced this morning to A. Patterson's place, two miles and a half from Royal's. The enemy had been there yesterday, and, from information gathered from the negroes, found it advisable to give up the attempt to find their position in the day. They told me that they were in the Edisto Swamp, near the bridge, and in the woods in rear of Mr. Patterson's, on the left of the road going from this place. Their information I believe to be tolerably correct as to the position of the enemy last evening, and it may be so to-day, as on our return we saw tracks of men entering the road on our right (Edisto), following upon our tracks some distance, and then crossing the road to the left about one mile and a half from Royal's (where the Branchville road joins the Charleston road). We intend scouting it thoroughly to-night if practicable.

JNO. H. SAMS,
Private.

ORANGEBURG, *February 11, 1865.*
(Received 10 a. m.)

General McLAWS:

The party reported to have crossed below retired upon the approach of re-enforcements. I am making every effort to ascertain the strength of the enemy in the forks. I will concentrate my forces and wait further developments.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 11, 1865.*
(Received 11.45 a. m.)

General McLAWS:

The enemy have not yet crossed. I think the main force is in front and above this place. I will withdraw Pettus from Rowe's Bridge to-night, replacing him by such cavalry as I can get, concentrating my force here, and await further developments. There seems to be no force at and below Rowe's.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, [*February*] *11, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

The enemy are skirmishing with my infantry in front of this place.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 11, 1865—11.50.*
(Received 12.45.)

Major-General McLAWS:

The enemy have driven my skirmishers across the river at this place, and the bridge is being destroyed.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH TENNESSEE CAVALRY,
In the Field, February 11, 1865.

General McLAWS,
Branchville, S. C.:

GENERAL: Having learned that the enemy had crossed the river at a point two miles above Rowe's Station, I sent a scout to ascertain the facts. Since I sent the scout Lieut. D. R. Wilson, who commands my pickets at Rowe's Pump, sends me a courier stating that it is false as to enemy having crossed river. There has no enemy crossed river as yet. I have a scout gone to said point at this time, who will report to me to-night. If anything should take place worthy of note I will dispatch you at once. Lieutenant Wilson dispatches me that some of our cavalry had crossed river on scout. On returning to river, the infantry pickets took fright and ran off, reporting the enemy when it was our own men. Lieutenant Wilson dispatches this as coming from General Palmer, who commands infantry force at said pump and bridge.

I am, your obedient servant,

W. W. LILLARD,
Captain, Commanding Fifth Regiment Tennessee Cavalry.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

Major-General STEVENSON,
Orangeburg, S. C.:

It is desirable to hold the line referred to long as practicable. Wheeler says he left you 800 cavalry. Where are they?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 11, 1865.*

Major-General STEVENSON,
Orangeburg, S. C.:

General Beauregard wishes you to communicate directly with him at this place. Your dispatches will then be laid before Governor Magrath.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, *February 11, 1865—9.40 p. m.*

General STEVENSON:

It is desirable to hold your present line as long as practicable, but at the same time you must use your discretion so as not to jeopardize your command.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 11, 1865.

General PETTUS,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: March your troops at once to this place. Get in communication with the cavalry, and direct the commander to occupy the position near Rowe's Bridge.

By command of Maj. Gen. C. L. Stevenson:

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 11, 1865.

General PETTUS,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Let Henderson, after crossing Four Hole Swamp, instead of stopping at the crossing, move down to Sandy Run and report to General McLaws.

By command of Major-General Stevenson:

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Orangeburg, February 11, 1865.

Colonel HENDERSON,
Commanding Cumming's Brigade:

COLONEL: I am directed by General Stevenson to inform you that the enemy have crossed below you, and to direct you to have your men formed so as to meet him. Send out scouts and ascertain the true state of affairs.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Columbia, S. C., February 11, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOSEPH WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs me to say that General Stevenson has been forced back beyond the North Fork of the Edisto in the direction of Orangeburg, which would indicate an easterly move by the enemy, and that the move toward Aiken must be a feint, and desires that you move, with all the force you can spare, to his support.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 11, 1865—1 p. m.*

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: The following dispatch has just been received from General Hardee, dated Charleston, February 11, 1865:

> Place yourself in communication with Wheeler and order him peremptorily to send cavalry to protect the flanks of Stevenson and McLaws. He telegraphed me yesterday that he had ordered 1,300 cavalry to me, which I hope may yet come.

This dispatch is, I presume, in answer to a dispatch of mine, stating that only 100 had reported to McLaws and 100 to Stevenson. General Hardee wishes Col. D. G. White to report to department headquarters as inspector of cavalry. The enemy have just appeared in front of this position. They are understood to have crossed at Holman's and Duncan's Bridges, so it looks as if they were advancing north.

Very respectfully,

W. D. PICKETT,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Inspector-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *February 11, 1865—6 a. m.*

General WHEELER:

I have a force of about 3,000 men, including the Georgia militia. They are located on this side of Big Horse Creek to defend the crossing. I will send General J. A. Smith, with Cleburne's division, about 1,000 men, to Graniteville to assist you in protecting that place. I will be on the road from Augusta to Graniteville. Send all dispatches through General Jim Smith.

B. F. CHEATHAM,
Major-General.

Watch well to my left flank. All is open from this road to the river. I would like to have ten couriers. I will be near Bath Mills during the morning. You may be able to communicate by telegraph.

BATH MILLS, *February 11, 1865.*

General WHEELER:

I sent General Smith, in charge of about 1,000 or 1,200 men, to Graniteville early this morning; I think with his aid you can hold that place. General Bate, with 700 more, is at Little Horse Creek, seven miles from Graniteville; I have a brigade at that place.

B. F. CHEATHAM,
Brigadier-General.

AUGUSTA, GA.,
February 11, 1865—8 a. m.

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: Your telegram of 3.45 p. m. yesterday did not reach me till 2 o'clock this morning. I hope that you will not depend upon the telegraph; 'tis too uncertain. Two efficient staff officers were at once sent out to look up the quartermaster and get off the corn. The depot quartermasters, you know, are always lazy except about a personal speculation or a sharp operation versus the Government. The corn has been got off by those staff officers, and not by the other worthy gentlemen. I fully appreciate the difficulties mentioned by you as arising from details. This parricidal [practice] breaks up discipline, as well as weakens your command. I myself saw, with Major Millen, nearly if not altogether as many men driving cows as there were cows in the lot. Such ignoble service must destroy the manliness of the cow-drivers. I regret very much the delay about the corn. I want to help you all I can. I do trust that you may be able to concentrate and beat that marauding rascal, Kilpatrick.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
February 11, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding District of Georgia, Augusta:

GENERAL: You told me your orders were to burn the cotton in Augusta when the enemy had approached to within fifteen miles of the city. I beg that this may not be done. We would feel very badly to burn so much cotton if the enemy should not reach the city. I feel

that the spirit of General Beauregard's order could be carried out and still delay the business until the enemy reaches the river bank at Hamburg. This certainly could be done if pitch and tar were held in readiness to facilitate the burning.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General, Commanding Cavalry.

GRANITEVILLE, *February 11, 1865.*
(Received 1 p. m.)

General WHEELER:

A strong infantry force will be here by 2 o'clock. I congratulate you on your success. Many stragglers from your command?

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

GRANITEVILLE, *February 11, 1865.*
(Received 2.30.)

General WHEELER:

I am here with Cleburne's division, Cheatham's corps; 1,200 men. Communicate with me.

J. A. SMITH,
Brigadier-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 11, 1865.*
(Received 8.40.)

General BRAXTON BRAGG:
(Care General Cooper, Richmond.)

Reliable scouts report five regiments (about 3,000 men) arrived at Morehead; part have come to New Berne. Large number of negroes cutting cross-ties. Roads bad at present. This is corroborated by a lady just come out from New Berne, who says a division had arrived a day or two after Grant left.

Respectfully,

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 11, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

I fear the removal of headquarters from here immediately after the transfer of troops to the east will have a depressing effect upon the country.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 11, 1865.*

Col. G. W. BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

The quartermaster here reports that it will require six weeks to ship stores necessary for the use and subsistence of the army, as the mules

will have to wait at Midway for the wagons and the wagons are lightly if at all loaded. Would it not be better to send them across the country in view of the delays? I refer to trains of the army. Please answer.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[FEBRUARY 12, 1865.—For Beauregard to Lee, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1048.]

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE, *General-in-Chief:*

General Butler has several hundred serviceable horses in Lancaster and Fairfield which can be foraged only about twenty days in recruiting camps. General Hampton and myself recommend that they be brought here for Young's brigade to protect our communication, now seriously threatened by enemy. Forage is abundant and horses can be better supplied and cared for here.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
General-in-Chief, Richmond, Va.:

Dispatch of 8th just received. General Taylor reported Twenty-third Corps having left Middle Tennessee to join Sherman. Prisoners and deserters report Nineteenth and Twenty-third with Sherman. Lieutenant McAdams just from Savannah reported about 7th instant one division of Nineteenth Corps formed garrison of that city, but Twenty-third had not arrived. I have heard nothing more on subject since leaving Augusta.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
General-in-Chief, Richmond, Va.:

I earnestly recommend, for the good of the service and cause, that General Hampton be promoted temporarily to command all the cavalry of this department, which cannot be rendered otherwise as effective as present emergencies demand. Major-General Wheeler, who ranks only a few days, is a modest, zealous, gallant, and indefatigable officer, but he cannot properly control and direct successfully so large a corps of cavalry.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

Am informed General Ripley is again in Richmond, notwithstanding repeated orders to join his brigade, now fronting enemy near Augusta. I request he be ordered to his post forthwith.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—9.30 p. m.*

Capt. A. R. CHISOLM:
(Care of Col. T. D. Wagner, Charleston, S. C.)

I will leave here to-morrow for Charleston.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[FEBRUARY 12, 1865.—For Hardee to Davis, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1071.]

[FEBRUARY 12, 1865.—For Hardee to Cooper, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1071.]

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—7 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

Be careful enemy do not strike Northeastern Railroad and bridge by passing between Four Hole Swamp and Santee. Guard well that bridge and crossings of that river.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—9 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

You can better judge of the precise moment for commencing the movement referred to in your telegram of yesterday. I am of opinion that you have not much time to lose to accomplish it successfully.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—9 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

Wheeler reported he had gone toward Augusta in obedience to your instructions, leaving 1,400 men to support Stevenson and McLaws. Former officer reports not having yet seen them. Present management of the cavalry surpasses my understanding.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—10 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

General Ripley's leave was canceled by War Department. He ought to be with his command, now fronting enemy near Augusta.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—10 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

General Wheeler reports having defeated Kilpatrick at Johnson's Turnout, near Aiken. I shall congratulate him. Keep Colonel Clarke for present.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—9.02 p. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

General Stevenson informs me he will commence retiring to-night on Kingsville and this place. You must hold enemy in check behind Four Hole Swamp and Sandy Run to the Santee, and effectively guard crossings of that river to the Wateree, or enemy may reach Northeastern Railroad before your movement shall have been completed; hence necessity of prompt action on your part. I will leave here to-morrow, if possible, to join you.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—10 p. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

Have already informed you where Wheeler's cavalry is, in obedience to your instructions, as he reports. I have ordered him to return, but you must rely on other arrangements for the protection of the flank referred to.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, [*February*] *12, 1865.*

Major-General MCLAWS:

In consequence of the movements of the enemy on the coast you will retire from your position at once, falling back in this direction. Send what is left of Conner's brigade to this point, and also Fiser's brigade; cars will be sent to George's Station or any other point you may designate for these troops. Answer.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 12, 1865.*

Major-General MCLAWS:

Place Fiser's brigade on the train which has been sent for that purpose, and hold it at Ridgeville Station subject to order.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—10 a. m.*

Major-General STEVENSON,
Orangeburg, S. C.:

Be careful that no Government stores are lost as you retire. Save telegraph wire if possible, and destroy roads and bridges as you fall back.

By order of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Major-General McLaws.)

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865.*

General STEVENSON,
Orangeburg, S. C.:

One train now at Kingsville. Another will be there at 3 p. m.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 12, 1865—7.40 p. m.*

Major-General STEVENSON,
Kingsville, or farther if not at Kingsville, S. C.:

Guard well the bridge over the Congaree, and destroy it only when forced to retire.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 12, 1865.*
(Received 10.35.)

General McLAWS:

Very heavy skirmishing at Shilling's Bridge. The enemy are engaging us at this front with artillery placed in position last night.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

ORANGEBURG, *February 12, 1865.*
(Received 12 o'clock.)

General McLAWS:

When I retire from the Edisto I will cross a brigade at Five Notch crossing at Four Hole Swamp, and order them to Sandy Run to you.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ROWE'S BRIDGE, S. C.,
February 12, 1865—12 m.

Major-General McLAWS,
Branchville, S. C.:

GENERAL: The enemy have made their appearance in my front, driving my vedettes from the river to the works. They are in considerable

force. I cannot tell whether infantry or cavalry—they are dismounted and in the swamp. I think they will attempt a crossing at this point. I will hold them in check as well as I can. When I am driven from the river I will fall back on the Orangeburg road. I will dispatch you when I am driven from river.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

W. W. LILLARD,
Captain, Commanding Detachment Fifth Tennessee Cavalry.

BATTERY BEE, *February 12, 1865—9.25 p. m.*

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Sumter:

Another report just from Andersonville. Twelve vessels of different kinds are quietly anchored in the bay. Two or three gone in the direction of McClellanville.

RHETT,
Colonel.

BATTERY BEE, *February 12, 1865—1 p. m.*

Captain PAGE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, City:

Thirteen steamers arrived in Bull's Bay at 8 o'clock this a. m.

BOYLSTON,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

BATTERY BEE, *February 12, 1865—3.30 p. m.*

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Sumter:

Two or three more steamers have entered Bull's Bay. One in creek in front of Andersonville and two in lower end of the bay.

BOYLSTON,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY, *February 12, 1865—4.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant BOYLSTON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Battery Bee:

Order Captain Parker's battery back to Andersonville at once.

[P. N. PAGE.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Charleston, February 12, 1865.

Colonel BLACK,
Commanding First South Carolina Cavalry:

COLONEL: You will march with your command to Holly Hill, a point northwest of Sandy River, taking the road via Summerville and Ridgeville. You will examine the passes of the road through the "by pass," and the crossing of the road through Four Hole Swamp near Doctor Murray's. You will make your headquarters near Burch's Ford beyond Holly Hill, and dispose of your command so as to cover any advance

of the enemy from the direction of Orangeburg, particularly guarding the passage of the Five Notch road through the Four Hole Swamp. You will establish a courier-line from Burch's Ford to George's Station, and keep me advised of your movements and dispositions and those of the enemy. You will also communicate with General McLaws at Branchville and with any part of General Stevenson's force that may fall back toward the Santee, Four Hole Swamp, or Sandy River. You will especially observe and report if the enemy seek to strike at the Santee River toward Keysville or Vance's Ferry, and will resist, as far as you can, any force that you can cope with. Should the telegraph station at George's Station be interrupted by the threatening of the enemy you will establish a line of couriers, via Eutaw Spring and Pineville, with Saint Stephen's Depot on the Northeastern Railroad.

W. B. TALIAFERRO,
Brigadier-General.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 12, 1865.*

Captain PAGE:

See Colonel Black and tell him to send thirty of his men, with a good commanding officer, to the Sandy River country as ordered, and with the rest to proceed himself to reconnoiter and hold the country toward Bull's Bay, passing from Summerville early to-morrow morning to the first crossing by bridge above Strawberry Ferry, and holding the enemy in check as far as he can if he advances toward the Northeastern Railroad, and keeping us well advised of the movements of the enemy and his own, via Monk's Corner.

W. B. TALIAFERRO,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
Augusta, February 12, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Columbia, S. C.:

GENERAL: General Wheeler had quite a handsome affair yesterday at Aiken with Kilpatrick, driving him some four miles. I went down on horseback yesterday and returned at 2 o'clock last night. Examined, with General Wheeler, the Yankee position; could ascertain nothing definite, but was not inclined to think the force large. General W. seems confident that Twentieth Corps was near Windsor yesterday. I send you reports of scouts. If no advance be made to-day, or to-morrow, I think that Cheatham ought to begin his march Tuesday. We have heard nothing of Sherman's movements since crossing the Edisto.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
Augusta, February 12, 1865.

General B. F. CHEATHAM,
Commanding Corps:

GENERAL: I have ordered Iverson to send up his Enfields by 2 o'clock train. If you have an ordnance officer here at that hour, you can get

them. I examined, with General Wheeler, the Yankee position four miles below Aiken. I was not inclined to think that there was much force at that point. General Wheeler is confident that Twentieth Corps was near Windsor.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Columbia, S. C., February 12, 1865—10.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. JOSEPH WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: General Hardee asks for cavalry to guard his right flank, particularly so much as extends from Sandy Run to the Santee; and General Beauregard directs that you move as soon as practicable, that the wishes of Lieutenant-General Hardee may be carried out.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Col. BRENT: Please send to General Wheeler.

J. M. O.

(Sent from Augusta to General Wheeler, February 13, 1865, 1.30 p. m.)

WILMINGTON, *February 12, 1865.*

Col. H. FORNO,
Columbia:

No force can be spared from this department for the purpose indicated.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

FEBRUARY 12, 1865.

Report of a scout.

I proceeded across the Salkehatchie River on the 1st of February, 1865, near the railroad bridge, and on reaching the river road at Blountville found the enemy in motion up the river. The column on this road camped on the night of the 1st about eleven miles north of Pocotaligo, and remained here until the morning of the 3d; then they moved and I followed them near Broxton's Bridge, and then hearing drums to the west, I went off in that direction to the McPhersonville and Buford's Bridge road. On arriving at said road, about eighteen miles south of Buford's Bridge (near Richardson's and Bostwick's farms), I found that about 3,000 of the column advancing up this road filed to the right and joined the column at Broxton's Bridge. The remainder of this column camped on this road where the Sister's Ferry road runs into it, from the night of the 4th to the morning of the 7th, and then they proceeded on in the direction of the bridge. Here I turned back, came down the Pocotaligo road, met a supply train of wagons, with about 60 wagons and 200 guards, at or near Mrs. McBride's farm.

Here I came across the country to the Salkehatchie, and crossed fourteen miles south of Broxton's Bridge, and joined my brigade at Raysor's Bridge on the night of the 8th. These two columns consisted chiefly of the Seventeenth and Fifteenth Corps; the Seventeenth near the river, and in my judgment will number from 12,000 to 15,000 men each. Prisoners reported they had thirty-one days' rations in their wagons, and they certainly had very heavy trains. All the prisoners were from the Seventeenth and Fifteenth Corps, save four, and they were taken from a supply train of Kilpatrick's cavalry on the way to Barnwell Court-House. Prisoners from the Fifteenth Corps stated that they expected to be re-enforced by the Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps, but had not been up to the time I left (on the morning of the 7th). On this scout, myself and squad turned over to our brigade provost-guard, 6 Yanks, 2 negroes, and from necessity, after getting a considerable distance up the river, turned over 19 to Colonel ———, and brought out 5 mules and 1 horse.

Respectfully,

T. M. PAYSINGER,
Sergt., Company G, Third South Carolina Regt., Conner's Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, February 13, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Columbia, S. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your order to direct Major-General Hill to send to Columbia either Stewart's or Cheatham's corps as soon as practicable. At present General Hill deems it impracticable. Two divisions of the Fourteenth Army Corps encamped last night near Johnson's Turn-Out. An adjutant and a provost-marshal of that corps were taken prisoners. They report that the Fourteenth Corps marched through Barnwell Court-House and struck the railroad about thirty miles from Augusta, and that the Twentieth Corps was moving on their right. Stewart's corps has not yet arrived. Walthall's division will be in to-night. As soon as Stewart is up I think one of the corps can be spared and will be put in motion. I have seen nothing yet to induce me to believe that the enemy is moving this way in force. I have to-day forwarded you several recommendations made by General Forrest for the promotion of several officers. Governor Harris is here and requests that you will remain there until he shall reach Columbia. He will leave to-morrow. A communication of the 6th instant has been received from Brigadier-General McCoy to Major-General Cobb, stating that there is no enemy on the west side of the Little Ogeechee. He feels satisfied that there is no enemy out of Savannah on this side two miles and a half. I will endeavor, if possible, to obtain and forward General Cooper copy of the field return of the Army of Tennessee for the 20th July, 1864.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

FEBRUARY 13, 1865—3.30 p. m.

P. S.—Since writing the above I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of order of last night at 10.30 p. m., directing the movement of Cheatham's corps to Columbia. The order has been given and Cheat-

ham will move at once with five days' cooked rations. The order to General Wheeler has been forwarded to him. He, however, left yesterday morning for Columbia; by what authority or under what circumstances, I am not informed. He will no doubt be in communication with you before the order I have sent can reach him. The last intelligence I have is that the enemy has occupied Orangeburg and that he is advancing in strong force, composed of different arms, on Aiken.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. B.,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 13, 1865.*

Maj. W. CLARE,
Assistant Inspector-General:

MAJOR: General Beauregard directs that you will forthwith proceed to inquire into the causes at this point in delays of the transportation of troops. General Walthall's division reached Mayfield yesterday and did not arrive to-day. Ascertain where the blame rests. Inquire into the capacity of the Georgia Railroad for the transportation of troops, and probe thoroughly its operations to ascertain if it be to blame, and, if to blame, whether from inefficiency, carelessness, or indisposition to aid the public service.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 13, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. G. A. HENRY,
Assistant Inspector-General:

COLONEL: General Beauregard directs that you proceed by morning's train to Camak and Mayfield and inquire thoroughly into the causes of the delays and detention of troops at these points. Their rapid transit to this place is of the first importance. Where transportation cannot be had, let them march to the nearest depot where it can be had. Report here each day the troops arriving at Mayfield, or expected to arrive, so that railroad authorities may be advised. It is important to know on whom the responsibility rests for the delays in hastening troops to this point.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 13, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Commanding Department, Charleston, S. C.:

You must depend upon your own troops to guard Santee Swamp. Stevenson is guarding the line from this place to the Wateree.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 13, 1865—12.40 p. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE, *Comdg. Dept., Charleston, S. C.:*

Dispatch received. General will leave at 3 p. m.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, February 13, 1865—1.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. B. F. CHEATHAM, *Commanding Corps, &c.:*

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs that you move with your corps at once to Columbia, S. C. The troops should be supplied, and carry with them, five days' cooked rations.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 13, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

Twenty-five hundred men of Stewart's corps were furloughed. Those who have returned are passing through by regiments. Cheatham's division has to pass, and is on its way. This includes all. I have established a camp of direction to prevent the straggling of returning squads. Will promptly move headquarters as soon as above troops have passed.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, *February 13, 1865.*
(Received 15th.)

General S. COOPER, *Adjutant and Inspector General:*

Dispatch of 10th received. I do not know the extent of the duties indicated. Had just tendered my services to General Beauregard to build up his army, if Government would give me control of that branch of the service, subject to his orders, west of Savannah River, from whence his army comes. To restore to that army the great number of stragglers is now of highest importance, requiring for success the assistance, temporarily, of a large number of efficient officers. These could be supplied from the supernumerary officers. Before consultation, which does President prefer I should do?

G. J. PILLOW,
Brigadier-General.

[First indorsement.]

Respectfully submitted to Hon. Secretary of War.

JOHN W. RIELY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR-GENERAL:

General Pillow will enter on his duties under the order from your office.

J. C. B[RECKINRIDGE],
Secretary of War.

CHARLESTON, *February 13, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Colcock has sent four companies cavalry by Raysor's Bridge. Take charge of and use them on your front and flank.

By order of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 13, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

General Hardee wishes you to send a competent staff officer with some of Colcock's cavalry and find out if possible what the enemy are doing.

D. H. POOLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 13, 1865.*

Major-General McLAWS:

Retain Fiser's brigade and dispose of it as you think best.

By order of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY, *February 13, 1865—1.25 a. m.*

Lieutenant BOYLSTON, *Battery Bee:*

Young's dismounted men and 400 of Conner's brigade have been ordered to McCormick's Landing. Colonel Rhett is to send Parker's battery to T.

PAGE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

BATTERY BEE,
February 13, 1865—9 a. m.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Sumter:

All quiet on this island. Colonel Rhett is now in the Christ Church lines.

JONES,
Lieutenant.

BATTERY BEE,
February 13, 1865—6.45 p. m.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, City:

No further information of the movements of the enemy. Young's men and the Fire Brigade have not yet reported. Le Gardeur's battery is at the church. Horses have been in harness for sixty hours. Parker's battery gone forward. I have ordered two 20-pounder Parrotts from Sullivan's Island to the lines. [*sic*] is to be in readiness to march. Have now 500 men on the line—want 2,000.

RHETT,
Colonel.

BATTERY BEE,
February 13, 1865—7.30 p. m.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, City:

The last report received from Bull's Bay was forwarded, stating that there are twelve vessels of different kinds on the bay. The kind is not designated. One or two have gone in the direction of McClellanville. Will forward reports as they come in.

I. JONES,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS,
Adams' Bridge, Columbia and Orangeburg Road,
February 13, 1865—8 a. m.

Major RATCHFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I am now eighteen miles from Orangeburg, and said to be twenty-one to Columbia. The enemy broke my line both to the right and left of my center yesterday about 3 o'clock. They were 300 or 400 strong on the left and perhaps not quite so strong on the right. My line being over three miles long, some of my pickets were cut off both on the right and left, and it was impossible for me to communicate with them afterward. They had, however, been instructed as to the direction to retire, and I am in hopes a majority of them will rejoin their command. The number not yet heard from is seventy-five. The balance of my command is here and well in hand, though much jaded. The enemy were evidently in some considerable force opposite me at the bridge, and followed me three or four miles, at which point the cavalry scouts informed me that they turned back. I have not heard from them since. I could see distinctly what appeared to be houses on fire, and especially up the river on my left, as I marched last night. I think a portion of the enemy's forces must have gone up the river on the Bull Swamp road. I shall march on as directed, and reach Columbia as soon as I can, but do not think I can reach that point to-night. If, however, it is absolutely necessary that I should do so, I beg to be advised accordingly.

I am, major, very respectfully,

J. B. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, February 13, 1865—1.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs that Cheatham's corps be at once put in motion for Columbia, S. C., and that Stewart's corps follow to same point as soon as possible, unless otherwise ordered. The troops should be provided with, and carry in haversacks, five days' cooked rations.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 13, 1865—8 p. m.*

General CHEATHAM:

GENERAL: Do you leave in the morning? Walthall's men did not come this evening, through want of transportation. I suppose that you will take all of the men of Lee's corps with you. Where is Featherston's brigade stationed? I will try to get Walthall's men run straight through to Graniteville. Smith, Cumming, and Featherston ought to hold the line up to Bath. Hannon's brigade of cavalry will be here to-night, and I will send it to Graniteville till Walthall gets up.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL.

[FEBRUARY 13, 1865.—For Wheeler to Otey, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1122.]

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 13, 1865—7.15 a. m.*

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of the 11th in regard to rations reached me at 10 last night; that [of] 8.15 p. m. 12th reached me at 7 a. m. to-day. I telegraphed to you last night in regard to a report to Messrs. Hammond and Branch of the sacking of Vaucluse by mounted men claiming to belong to your command, and of great depredations being committed on the Edgefield road and west of it. Two certificates signed by Captain Boykin, assistant quartermaster Third Alabama Cavalry, were shown me for horses impressed in the neighborhood of Augusta. If this fellow is acting without orders he ought to be shot like a dog. I am sending out to-day a party to catch, if possible, these wretches who are bringing reproach upon your command. I was very much impressed with the bearing of the officers and men whom I saw the other day, and could not but regret that a few base men should bring odium upon a collection of noble soldiers.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS BUTLER'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 13, 1865—9.15 p. m.

General STEVENSON,
Commanding Infantry, Lee's Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose you a telegraphic dispatch which was given to Captain Lowndes at the telegraph office. Scouts of my command have just returned from the Jones Bridge road, who were in the enemy's camp last night on the south side of the North Fork of the Edisto. They report that the Twentieth Corps (General Williams commanding) crossed at Jeffcoat's Bridge this morning, and they concur in the impression that this force is marching directly on Columbia. They do not report cavalry marching with the enemy's infantry. One report states that the advancing column had advanced twelve miles from Jeffcoat's Bridge in the direction of Columbia about 11 o'clock a. m. to-day; still marching rapidly. The enemy have some of their infantry mounted on horses taken in the country.

Respectfully,

M. C. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 13, 1865—10.30 p. m.

Major-General STEVENSON:

GENERAL: The information brought in by Butler's scouts has been sent to you, and I have communicated it to General Beauregard. Other scouts have been sent out. I suggest that you forward this information to Wheeler and the infantry commands in the direction of Augusta, so as to expedite their movements to this point. I think the line of the Congaree Creek should be held by strong pickets at the fords, whilst we push on the work laid out to-day. If you will hold the bridge over Congaree Creek and the creek up to the mouth of the Six-Mile Creek, Butler will hold all the upper fords as long as he can. I have ordered pickets placed on this side of the river and scouts sent down the State road. If you will concentrate all the cavalry under Butler he will look out for your right flank. I shall have some guns placed on this side of the river, just above the mouth of the Congaree Creek, so as to protect your left, if you are forced from the creek. I think it of the utmost importance to check any advance in this direction, should it be made, and I shall take pleasure in assisting you by all the means in my power. Do place yourself in communication with General Butler, who will forward all papers to me. It would be well for you to keep a courier at telegraph office, which will be kept open to-night.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., *February 13, 1865.*

His Excellency Governor VANCE,
Raleigh:

SIR: I have the honor to report my arrival here on Saturday evening. Yesterday I proceeded to camp, and was shown a very cold shoulder. I however issued an order assuming command. Just at dark a mutiny broke out among the men, which culminated about 9 o'clock in my being severely wounded and rendered insensible by a rock which struck me on the forehead. I was unarmed and could get no assistance whatever, the insubordination extending to the whole command. I have made a report of the matter to Colonel Palmer, a copy of which will be sent to you, so that it is unnecessary for me to enter into details in this communication. I have applied for and obtained leave to report to you in person in Raleigh. I shall probably be eight days from to-morrow in reaching there. After what has occurred, and the cowardly manner in which the regiment acted, it will be impossible for me ever to feel the love and respect I ought to feel for it, and which would be necessary to make it an effective body of men, and under no circumstances will I resume command of it. I have been accustomed to command soldiers between whom and myself there existed a mutual affection. I cannot command a mob who would dare to strike you through me (for there could be no personal prejudice against me). I promised you I would do my duty fearlessly. I feel that I have done so, and that when I have the pleasure of seeing you, you will sustain me in the decision I have arrived at.

Meantime I have the honor to be, Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

GEO. TAIT,
Colonel Sixty-ninth North Carolina Troops.

RALEIGH, *February 13, 1865.*
(Received 12.30.)

Hon. J. A. CAMPBELL.

All the reserves are in the field under department and district commanders. I have no men. Greensborough would be a better position for prisoners. If the Junior Reserves can be spared they could constitute guard enough.

TH. H. HOLMES,
Lieutenant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 13, 1865.*

Major-General CLAYTON,
Kingsville, S. C.:

Dispatch received. Guard well also the bridge over the Wateree on the line of railroad between Kingsville and Florence.

By order of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 14, 1865.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

It is respectfully suggested that the prisoners at Florence be sent to Wilmington and delivered on parole to the enemy, thus relieving us and embarrassing the enemy.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Charleston, February 14, 1865.

Memoranda of orders for Lieut. Gen. W. J. Hardee:

First. One brigade of Wright's division in Saint Paul's will move by railroad to Monk's Corner and thence march into position (at or about Snowden's) from Sandy Run to Santee River.

Second. The remainder of Wright's division to move via Summerville, thence to Grumesville, thence along Northeastern Railroad to Saint Stephen's Depot.

Third. The troops around Charleston will commence the movement when Wright's division shall have reached Summerville.

Fourth. Troops in Christ Church will take steamers to Strawberry Ferry via Cordesville to Saint Stephen's Depot.

Fifth. The troops from James Island along sea front first, thence in succession to Ashley Ferry, thence to Six-Mile House, thence to Saint Stephen's Depot.

Sixth. Troops in Charleston to follow movements to Six-Mile House, thence to Saint Stephen's Depot.

Seventh. When the troops shall have arrived at Monk's Corner, McLaws shall commence the retrograde movement from the left flank resting at Four Hole bridge, passing in rear of Four Hole Swamp, thence by Pineville road to Pineville, thence to Saint Stephen's Depot.

Eighth. The troops on McLaws' right shall follow the movement as they are uncovered from the left.

Ninth. The rear guard of the troops executing these movements shall destroy all bridges and trestle behind them, and railroads when possible.

Tenth. The troops concentrated at Saint Stephen's shall move to form a junction with the troops at Columbia or with the same at Chesterville, following one of three routes, according to the movements of the enemy, as follows:

First. Via Manchester and Kingsville to Columbia or Manchester, Camden and Brown's Ferry, on the Catawba, to Chesterville.

Second. Via Darlington, Kelly's Bridge, on Lynch's Creek, and Brown's Ferry, on the Catawba, to Chesterville.

Third. Via Cheraw, Chesterfield, Lancaster, and Brown's Ferry, on the Catawba, to Chesterville.

In view of the facility the enemy has at Branchville and Orangeburg and in the direction of Columbia, to cut the line of retreat of the garrison of Charleston, as above referred to, it becomes necessary to commence the evacuation as soon as the necessary preparations can be made. The holding of Charleston is now reduced to only a question of a few days. Its loss does not jeopardize the safety of the State of South Carolina, but the loss of its garrison would greatly contribute to that end.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

FEBRUARY 14, 1865.

NOTE.—Lines of march from Charleston to Chesterville:

	Days.
Along Northeastern Railroad to Santee	4
To cross	2
To Darlington (Black River and Lynch's River to cross)	4
To Chesterville via Kelly's Bridge	6
Catawba to cross	16
To Santee	6
To Chesterville via Statesburg and Camden	9
Catawba to cross	15
To Santee	6
To Cheraw (Black and Lynch's Rivers to cross)	6
To Chesterville	5½
Catawba to cross	17½

For the information of the War Department.

AUGUSTA, *February 15 [14?], 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD, *Columbia, S. C.:*

GENERAL: All the cavalry reports of enemy's advance yesterday in this direction proved to be unfounded. The enemy has retired across the Edisto, and is reported moving toward Orangeburg. Cheatham's corps will move in the morning at 3 o'clock. He could not get ready to-day. General Hill has been quite nervous about the cotton, but is now quiet. Wheeler's cavalry has been committing outrages about Graniteville, and General Hill has sent an officer to investigate the facts. Major Willis will probably leave in the morning for Columbia.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 14, 1865.*

General W. J. HARDEE, *Charleston, S. C.:*

Your dispatch of the 12th received to-day.* The enemy may, and probably does, intend to attack Charleston, but it is by no means manifested by present operations. It is proper under the view presented to remove whatever is not needful for defense of the place, and then to postpone evacuation as long as prudent. If General Beauregard can beat the enemy in the field, the cause herein indicated may preserve the city and harbor for future use, and save us the pain of seeing it pass into the hands of the enemy. General Beauregard and yourself are so well informed of the condition of the armies and practicability of routes that I must leave you to the free exercise of your judgment. It, however, seems to me that the bridge over the Santee can be defended against a boat expedition up that river, without materially interfering with other operations, and a movement by the enemy overland from Bull's Bay is hardly to be anticipated.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 37. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, February 14, 1865.*

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XIII. Pursuant to telegram from this office under date of January 21, 1865, Brig. Gen. R. S. Ripley, Provisional Army, C. S., will immediately proceed to Columbia, S. C., and report to General G. T. Beauregard for assignment to duty with his proper command.

* * * * * * *

By command of Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 38. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA., *Charleston, S. C., February 14, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

VIII. Maj. Gen. A. R. Wright will send the brigade of South Carolina militia at once by rail, via Charleston, to Monk's Corner, on the Northeastern Railroad. The brigade will then march to Snowden's and take position there, picketing to the Santee on the one side, and to Sandy Run on the other.

* * * * * * *

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

H. W. FEILDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BATTERY BEE,
February 14, 1865.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, City:

No attack up to 11.20 last p. m. Conner's men have arrived, and Andersonville reported safe. No firing heard during the night. Will inform you promptly if anything occurs.

RHETT,
Colonel.

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* See Part I, p. 1071.

CITY, *February 14, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

Colonel RHETT,
Battery Bee:

I have received no estimate of the number of the enemy's troops. Why has it not been sent? Why has Blake not reported? It is important to keep me advised, and must be done. Send, if necessary, special courier to-night to ascertain facts. Use artillery horses if you have no cavalry. Will send engineers in the a. m. Stop Quirk's company, engineer troops, now at McCormick's Landing, to do the work at the lines. They will leave for the city in the a. m. unless you stop them to-night. Signal men will be sent.

TALIAFERRO,
General.

BATTERY BEE,
February 14, 1865—4.10 p. m.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Sumter:

All quiet at Andersonville. Colonel Rhett wishes to know if you have ordered an engineer company to the lines.

JONES,
Lieutenant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND AND THIRD SUB-DISTRICTS,
Charleston, February 14, 1865.

[Colonel BLACK?:]

COLONEL: I am directed by Brigadier-General Taliaferro to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 13th instant, just received, and to direct you to push on to Bull's Bay. Resist any effort the enemy may make to strike the Northeastern Railroad, and keep him informed of the movements and position of the enemy. He directs that you will guard especially against any attempt on the part of the enemy to advance from or land at McClellanville, and send him as accurate an estimate as you can make of the enemy's force. He is very desirous of obtaining this information, as he has been unable so far to get it from Colonel Rhett. A telegraph office will be situated at Monk's Corner to-morrow.

[P. N. PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.]

HDQRS. THIRD SQUADRON, THIRD SOUTH CAROLINA CAV.,
George's Station, February 14, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your order directing a scout to be made of the roads between this and the Santee River, and have sent forward a reliable officer for the purpose. The distance is great also from here to your headquarters, but I will endeavor to furnish the information required as soon as possible. I have been acting under orders from Captain Smart, who directed me not to advance too closely to the enemy. I have sent scouts to Branchville and up the Orangeburg road. From an intelligent negro, who walked

the track from Orangeburg to this place, I am informed that the enemy had nearly all passed through Orangeburg, advancing toward Columbia and the Northeastern Railroad. I could have advanced farther toward Orangeburg, but was directed by Captain Smart to take my squadron to Reeves' Station and scout toward Branchville. I will be up the Orangeburg road, having a small picket at George's Station and at the intersection of the Orangeburg road with road leading from the station. I am acting under orders from Captain Smart, and also, it appears, from Lieutenant Bennett, so I hope that the major-general will not consider me responsible for information, except in the event of my being cut off from these officers.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. C. HEYWARD,
Captain, Commanding Squadron Third South Carolina Cavalry.

HDQRS. DETACHMENT FIFTH SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Appleby's Bridge, February 14, 1865.

Capt. R. W. B. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Please say to the major-general commanding that I am at Appleby's Bridge with one squadron, and have the other moving up parallel with this on the Orangeburg road, which is on the opposite side of the railroad. Constant communication is kept up by couriers through neighborhood roads and paths. A strong scouting party was sent up in the neighborhood of Branchville, as soon as we reached this place, with instructions to find the enemy and ascertain his line of march, force, character of troops, &c. They have not yet reported, and I feel confident from that fact that the enemy are not in the immediate neighborhood of Branchville. Lieutenant Bennett, of Texas troops, reported to me yesterday evening as a scout, with orders from Major-General McLaws. He says that the major-general desires us to move up on both roads until we find the enemy. This is in conflict with instructions given me by Colonel Fiser and Captain King, assistant adjutant-general, who said we must keep in supporting distance of our infantry. If Lieutenant Bennett is properly instructed you will please inform me. I know nothing of him. His order is signed by Major-General McLaws and not by an adjutant. I am advancing slowly on both roads, and hope to be at or above Branchville to-night, scouting in advance. Will be glad to follow up the enemy's rear and flank it, agreeable to the major-general's plans. Please forward the accompanying to Colonel Colcock.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. SMART,
Captain, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 14, 1865.

Major HAMILTON:

You will relieve to-day Palmer's battalion of artillery ordered to move with Major-General Cheatham. Two guns will be sent to Graniteville and two to Bath to take the place of those at those points. This relieving battery of your guns will be subject to the order of Major-

General Walthall at Graniteville. Your remaining battery will be placed in position near the crossing of Big Horse Creek by the Beach Island road, and will be subject to the command of Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 14, 1865.*

Brigadier-General FRY,
Commanding Post:

GENERAL: These headquarters having been informed that there are several local companies in this city armed with Enfield rifles, General Beauregard desires that you will cause their arms to be collected by Captain Finney and turned over to Cheatham's corps. These companies can be supplied with muskets now in charge of Captain Finney. I annex a list of the companies holding the rifles: Smith's and Pendleton's companies, at powder mills; Markey's and Caminade's companies, at machine works; Smythe's company, at arsenal; Clemons' and Rowley's companies, at shoe and wagon factory; Cross' company, at shoe factory; Holmes' company, at medical depot.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, *February 14, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster:

MAJOR: General Beauregard directs that you report to him at Columbia, S. C., at once, prepared to visit Richmond, Va.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 14, 1865.*

Hon. G. A. TRENHOLM,
Secretary of Treasury, Richmond, Va.:

General Beauregard left for Charleston yesterday evening and will return to-morrow morning. General Hampton advises the removal of Treasury Note Bureau to Charlotte, N. C., or some point beyond. The information has been extended to Mr. Leitch, assistant treasurer, and Mr. C. F. Hanckel, of the Treasury Note Bureau.

ALB. FERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Columbia, S. C., February 14, 1865.

Major-General CHEATHAM,
Commanding Corps, Augusta, Ga.:

General Beauregard directs you to hasten your movement on Columbia.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 14, 1865—1.45 p. m.*

Lieut. Gen. A. P. STEWART, *Newberry, S. C.:*

General Beauregard directs you to hasten your movement on Columbia or to join General Wheeler, as circumstances may best require.

ALB. FERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 14, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

The enemy have driven Clayton across the railroad bridge, and it has been burnt. He reports heavy force moving on McCord's Ferry. Re-enforcements sent there from Kingsville. Cavalry have been skirmishing with the enemy in front on Little Congaree bridge, and have checked their advance.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Near Columbia, February 14, 1865.

Governor MAGRATH, *Columbia:*

GOVERNOR: Colonel Bartow's forces sent to Kingsville to assist in the defense of the river in that vicinity. Major-General Clayton (with his division) is there in command, and I am not informed to what point Colonel Bartow has been assigned, but I suppose with a portion of the division at one of the ferries near by. The enemy drove our troops to-day from the south side of the railroad bridge and it was burned. Re-enforcements were sent to McCord's Ferry, in which direction the enemy was moving. I do not think the militia can be spared at present, but will relieve them if the governor desires it.

I am, governor, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

KINGSVILLE, S. C., *February 14, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

The enemy appeared in force at the railroad bridge at 12 m. to-day; after skirmishing awhile our forces fell back across the bridge and burned the bridge. Scouts brought in prisoner of Seventeenth Army Corps, who says that corps is near Fort Motte; Fifteenth Army Corps confronting Columbia. All quiet to-night.

H. D. CLAYTON,
Major-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 14, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

Scouts report enemy camped on State road—Fifteenth Corps in front, Twentieth next, Tenth [Seventeenth?] next, think Fourteenth in rear. Prisoner from Kilpatrick's wagon train reports him on Blackville and Columbia road; says they are marching on Columbia.

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 14, 1865—10 a. m.*

Maj. Gen. W. HAMPTON,
Commanding Sub-District, Columbia, S. C.:

If report be confirmed, order in my name General Wheeler to concentrate forthwith for the defense of Columbia, either by joining his forces to yours or by attacking enemy in flank and rear. Order also Generals Cheatham and Stewart to hasten their movement on Columbia, or to join Wheeler, as circumstances may best require. Be careful dispatches do not fall into the hands of the enemy.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 14, 1865—10 a. m.*

General W. HAMPTON,
Commanding Sub-District, Columbia, S. C.:

Order to Wheeler must not include Dibrell's brigade or equivalent ordered by General Hardee to guard McLaws' right flank from Four Hole Swamp to Santee and crossing of Santee.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 14, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

Enemy demonstrating at Thewitz Ferry; think they will cross there. Re-enforcements should go to Kingsville. Think movement against this place serious. All quiet in front.

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 14, 1865—3.30 p. m.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD, *Charleston, S. C.:*

Enemy's infantry four miles from Congaree Creek bridge and reported advancing. Other columns of infantry moving on road toward Lexington Court-House.

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 14, 1865—1.45 p. m.*

General JOSEPH WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry, &c.:

General Beauregard orders you to concentrate forthwith for the defense of Columbia, either by joining your forces to those of General Hampton or by attacking enemy in flank or rear.

ALB. FERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 14, 1865—8 a. m.*

General ALFRED IVERSON, *Green's Cut:*

GENERAL: Cheatham was ordered to move at daylight this morning. The order for the exchange of Enfields to be turned over to him was issued on the 11th, repeated on the 12th and 13th. Through some

unaccountable delay Cheatham has to march without them. The operator at Green's Cut has been reported out of his office when messages were to be sent. You must have a party opposite Stony Bluff to watch and resist a crossing. Keep your command habitually ready to move at a moment's notice. Many deserters are said to be crossing at the upper bridges of Brier Creek. Prevent this thing as far as you can.

Respectfully, &c.,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 14, 1865—1 p. m.*

General IVERSON:

GENERAL: If Ferguson reaches Brier Creek to-night you will march to this place to-morrow, explaining to him the nature of the ground, character of the country, &c., before you leave. Give him all the information which would be useful to him in his new situation. The guns have not yet reached here. I wish you would see personally about them, and let me know what has become of them.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 14, 1865.

Colonel Hannon will proceed with his brigade to Aiken and relieve the brigade of cavalry on duty. He will picket all the approaches to Augusta, and keep the officer commanding infantry forces at Graniteville, General G. W. Smith, on Big Horse Creek, and these headquarters, apprised of all movements of the enemy. He will still be subject to orders from these headquarters of District of Georgia.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

RALEIGH, *February 14, 1865.*
(Received 10 o'clock.)

Hon. J. A. CAMPBELL:

Shall I order the Third Regiment Junior Reserves to report to Colonel Forno? Wadesborough, the terminus of Wilmington and Rutherford Railroad, is a fruitful country that has not been yet touched. This region is exhausted.

TH. H. HOLMES,
Lieutenant-General.

BY THE GOVERNOR:

A Proclamation to the people of North Carolina.

Whereas, it is incumbent on me, by virtue of the high trusts your partiality has conferred upon me, to watch with vigilance over your welfare, guard with fidelity your interests, and warn you of every approaching danger: Now, therefore, I, Zebulon B. Vance, governor

of the said State, actuated by a sacred sense of duty and love of country, do deem it necessary to address you in this manner in regard to the dangers and duties of the present time, earnestly praying that it may be conducive to harmony and good will, wherein only is to be found a safe and honorable deliverance from all our troubles. It is known to you all that in the beginning of these troubles North Carolina was so decidedly opposed to imitating the secession of her Southern sisters that any attempt to force her to do so by even a majority of her people, prior to the proclamation of Lincoln in 1861, would most likely have resulted in civil war among our own citizens. It pleased God, however, to prevent this calamity and to calm all the fierce passions of party bitterness, and to cause the most perfect unanimity by means of that proclamation, which placed before us the dire necessity of either assisting or slaughtering our own brothers and friends. Interest, honor, and sympathy combined to decide us upon resistance to what all united in condemning as a cruel and wicked war upon the homes and liberties of the South. With unexampled zeal we entered into the war, rushed forward our bravest sons, and poured out our richest treasures. With immense sacrifices and varying fortunes we continued the struggle, still with great unanimity, for years. About the end of the third year, however, a portion of our people, in common with many others throughout the South, seeing how our best citizens were falling, and how our fairest lands were desolated, began to urge that peace should be sought for by negotiations as well as by the sword. They argued that our Confederate authorities, moved by pride of opinion and embittered by the length and fierceness of the conflict, had not made a sufficient trial of statesmanship as a means of stopping the war, that no doubt if properly approached, either by commissioners appointed by our common Government, or by the States separately, supposing diplomatic reasons would prevent the enemy from treating with the former, that our enemy would grant us better terms than we had supposed, and promising that if a fair and honest effort at negotiations should be spurned by the enemy or rejected, then all classes and conditions of men in the South would unite in an earnest prosecution of the war. This was the first serious approach to a division among our people. Sympathizing with the reasonableness of this demand, though not with all the reasons given for believing in its efficiency, and being as sincerely desirous as it was possible for man to be, to stop the war on honorable terms, I, as your governor, addressed President Davis in December, 1863, and urged this course upon him. In answer thereto, he assured me that three separate and distinct efforts had been made to treat with the enemy without obtaining even a hearing, and that he did not see how a fourth one could be initiated without humiliation to ourselves and injury to our cause. Trusting that Providence would yet open the way the matter rested here for another year. Many, however, of our people, who advocated peace upon such vague and ill-defined terms as to cause doubts of their good faith and loyalty, continued sedulously to disseminate the opinion that our own Government alone was to blame for the continuance of the war; going so far in some instances as to threaten revolutionary measures for wresting the treaty-making power from its hands, and negotiating with the enemy ourselves, alleging that we could certainly get such terms, if the States would act in their sovereign capacity, as would secure our property and slaves by reconstruction. Since the beginning of the present year, however, two individuals from the North, having visited Richmond on a peace mission by the authority of President Lincoln, and

having, as our President supposed, opened the way for another effort at negotiations, it was promptly made. He immediately sent a delegation through the lines for that purpose, consisting of Vice-President Stephens, Judge Campbell, late of the Supreme Court of the United States, and the Hon. R. M. T. Hunter, C. S. Senator from the State of Virginia—men all eminent for their abilities, public services, and the long continued confidence and respect of their countrymen. The first two are well known to have opposed the beginning of this war, and to sympathize with the general desire for negotiations. They were met at Fortress Monroe, by President Lincoln and Mr. Seward, his Secretary of State, who, without allowing them to leave the boat on which they arrived, told them what appears in the following official report:

RICHMOND, *February 5, 1865.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES:

SIR: Under your letter of appointment of Commissioners of the 28th, we proceeded to seek an informal conference with Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, upon the subject mentioned in your letter. The conference was granted, and took place on the 3d instant on board a steamer anchored in Hampton Roads, where we met President Lincoln and Hon. Mr. Seward, Secretary of State for the United States. It continued for several hours, and was both full and explicit. We learned from them that the message of President Lincoln to the Congress of the United States in December last explains clearly and distinctly his sentiments as to the terms, conditions, and mode of proceeding by which peace could be secured to the people, and we were not informed that they would be modified or altered to attain that end. We understood from him that no terms or proposals of any treaty or agreement looking to an ultimate settlement would be entertained or made by him with the authorities of the Confederate States, because that would be a recognition of their existence as a separate power, which, under no circumstances, would be done, and for like reasons, that no such terms would be entertained by him from States separately, that no extended truce or armistice, as at present advised, would be granted or allowed, without a satisfactory assurance in advance of the complete restoration of the authority of the Constitution and laws of the United States over all places within the States of the Confederacy; that whatever circumstances may follow from the re-establishment of that authority must be accepted out and out. Individuals subject to pains and penalties under the laws of the United States might rely upon a very liberal use of the power confided to him, to remit these pains and penalties if peace be restored. During such conference the proposed amendments to the Constitution adopted by Congress on the 31st ultimo were brought to our notice. These amendments provide that neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except for crime, should exist within the United States, or in any place within its jurisdiction, and Congress should have power to enforce the amendments by appropriate legislation. Of all the correspondence that preceded the conference herein mentioned, and leading to the same, you have heretofore been informed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

A. H. STEPHENS.
R. M. T. HUNTER.
J. A. CAMPBELL.

Thus you see that neither terms nor conditions were spoken of in the interview, but only subjugation offered us, the mere details of which they proposed to settle. At one blow all our hopes in the humanity and moderation of our enemies were dashed to the ground. No terms or proposals of a treaty, coming either from the Confederate States, or any one of the States, would be entertained, but a complete, absolute, and unconditional submission to the Constitution and laws of the United States is required as a preliminary step to any, even the slightest, cessation of hostilities. Seeing, then, that we can treat with the enemy neither by the authorities of the Confederate States, nor by separate State action, what will be the result if we submit, as we are required to do? This we can partly judge by examining that Constitution and those laws to which we are required to yield obedience.

That Constitution is not the one we left. In addition to the changes it has undergone by corrupt and violent interpretation by Black Republican judges, its wording has been so changed as to decree immediately and forever the abolition of slavery. The "laws," to whose tender mercies we are referred, provide most minutely and particularly for the punishment of death by the halter of every man, soldier, sailor or marine, civilians and others, who have been engaged in what they term rebellion. Not ceasing to punish with the death of the offender, the "laws" of the United States also provide that all his property, real and personal, shall be confiscated. The only mitigation of the rigor threatened by these laws is contained in Mr. Lincoln's proclamation accompanying his annual message in December, 1863, in which he proposes to hang only those above the rank of colonel in the Army and lieutenant in the Navy, and all civil and diplomatic officers or agents of the Confederate Government, and various other classes therein specified, coupled with a vague intimation to our commissioners, in their recent interview, that whilst we must prepare to accept all the pains and penalties of the laws, we might rely on a liberal use of the pardoning power vested in him. He also informs us that the terms set forth in his recent message of December last, wherein he re-endorses the above-mentioned proclamation, will be rigidly adhered to. Now then, we can sum up in some sort the consequences of our submission: Four million slaves, 200,000 of whom have been in arms against us, turned loose at once in our midst; our lands confiscated and sold out to pay the cost of our subjugation, or parceled among negro soldiers as the reward of the slaughter of their masters; our women, children, and old men reduced to beggary, and driven from their once happy homes; our mutilated and diseased soldiers, starving in rags from door to door, spurned by even pensioned negro soldiers, whilst the gallows grows weary under the burden of wisest statesmen and bravest defenders, to say nothing of universal financial ruin and the intolerable oppression of a rapacious and vindictive foe, in the hour of conquest. Great God! Is there a man in all this honorable, high spirited, and noble Commonwealth so steeped in every conceivable meanness, so blackened with all the guilt of treason, or so damned with all the leprosy of cowardice as to say: Yes, we will submit to all this; and whilst there yet remains half a million men amongst us able to resist. And who says the enemy will give us anything better? Not Mr. Lincoln; and do the weak and vacillating among us know better than he does what he will do for us? Having made, therefore, a fair and honest effort to obtain peace by negotiation, and knowing now precisely, from the lips of the President of the United States, what we are to expect, what are we to do next? There is only one thing left for us to do. We must fight, my countrymen, to the last extremity, or submit voluntarily to our own degradation. Let no man mistake the issue now. The line of distinction will be drawn plainly between those who are for their country and those who are against their country. There is no half-way house upon the road. The purifying fire is even now burning throughout the land, and its consuming flames must separate the dross from the true metal. Degradation, ruin, and dishonor on the one hand; liberty, independence, and honor, if our souls be strong, on the other. Is it not worth another honest and manly effort? Aye, another, and another, and another, and a thousand efforts of our whole people. As North Carolinians, descendants of Revolutionary heroes, and fathers and brothers of the noblest dead and living soldiers that ever drew a blade for human freedom, we cannot tolerate the thought of such base and

infamous submission. Should we willfully throw down an organized government, disband our still powerful armies, and invite all these fearful consequences upon our country, we would live to have our children curse our gray hairs for fastening our dishonor upon them. I trust and believe that there will be little difference of opinion in North Carolina as to the propriety of continued resistance. The great argument which will be brought forward to shake your honor and intended to incite you to despair will be, that successful resistance is no longer possible. Some will tell you that we are already subdued; that the enemy outnumbers us; that our fighting men are all slain; our resources all exhausted, and we might as well submit now. This, my countrymen, is false, and as frequently proceeds from a craven or a traitorous as from an honest but mistaken spirit. Great as our calamities have been, straightened as we are for all supplies both of men and material, I tell you, in all candor, that when I survey our condition by the light of human history, I see no danger which threatens to be fatal to our cause, except this depression of spirit among the people, and the still more fearful risk of internal dissension. So long as we remain one, and determined, it is not in the power of our enemies to subdue us. "But except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved."

All things may be supplied if we were but possessed of that bold and manly spirit of resistance to tyranny of which liberty and independence are born. That alone can fill the widow's barrel, and still the orphan's cry; can cast cannons and build ships of war; can raise up armed men from the dust of the dragon's teeth; can wrest tangible realities from the very jaws of impossibility. Without it, numbers but add to the ignominy of certain defeat, even as the Persian millions were whipped and shamed by the 300 in the mountain pass. Are our men all slain? Over 400,000 names yet stand upon the muster-rolls of the Confederacy, to say nothing of the many thousands who shirk. Where are they? Thousands upon thousands, absent without leave, are lurking in the woods and swamps of the South. Are our provisions all gone? Hundreds of thousands of bushels of grain now rot at the various depots of the South for want of transportation; and this transportation cannot be protected because these absent soldiers are not at the post of duty. Oh, my countrymen, if you would but rise to entreat, to shame, to drive them back to their country's standard! Has our territory been overrun? It has, but how much of it has been held? The enemy marched triumphantly through the heart of our sister, Georgia, and is she conquered? Except for the garrison at Savannah, and the ashes of desolation on their track through the interior, Georgia has neither enemy nor the sign of enemy on her soil. So of most portions of the South which space does not permit me to enumerate. For four years their countless legions have gnawed at the vitals of Virginia, yet to-day they claim not even all of her territory which is swept by their cannon. The cities they garrison, the land their armies actually stand upon, and the waters ridden by their fleets, are all that they really hold, or ever can hold except by our ignoble consent. Let the balance of our cities go, Mobile, Charleston, Wilmington, Richmond, all, and if we are determined to be free our subjugation is quite as distant as ever. For, thank God, the Confederacy does not consist in brick and mortar, or particular spots of ground, however valuable they may be in a military point of view. Our nationality consists in our people. Liberty dwells in the heart of her votaries, and the ragged, barefooted soldiers, standing in the depth of the forest, or in the shadow of the mountain, can offer her sacrifices which

will be as sweet and as acceptable as those proffered in gorgeous temples in the midst of magnificent cities. So if our country and its cause, like to the kingdom of God, be enthroned in our hearts, then, indeed, am I persuaded that neither principalities nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor heighth, nor depth, nor life, nor death, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from that independence and honor for which our people have suffered and our sons have died. Therefore, my countrymen, having warned you of this danger which is upon us, I now appeal to you by everything held sacred among men to bear yourselves as becomes your high lineage and future hopes. I implore you to lay down all party bitterness, and to be reconciled to your neighbor for the sake of your country; to use every possible exertion to restore absentees to the army; to divide of your abundance freely with the poor and the suffering; to strengthen the arms of your rulers, and to sustain your soldiers and their generals, and to give cheerfully your aid, physical and mental and moral, in whatever sphere you may be, to prevent the degradation of your country, and the ruin of its people. For the purpose of determining the best means of accomplishing this, as well as for giving expression to your opinions, I earnestly recommend that you assemble in primary meetings in every county in the State, and let the whole world, and especially our enemies, see how a free people can meet a proposition for their absolute submission to the will of their conquerors.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State, in our city of Raleigh, on the 14th day of February, A. D. 1865.

[L. S.] Z. B. VANCE.

By the Governor:

A. M. MCPHEETERS,
Private Secretary.

[FEBRUARY 15, 1865.—For Hardee to Davis, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1071.]

FLORENCE, S. C., *February 15, 1865—a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Commander-in-Chief, Richmond, Va.:

I have arranged with General Hardee for the immediate evacuation of Charleston and concentration of our forces at Chesterville, S. C. If those of General Bragg could be added thereto, success might yet crown our efforts, however dark may appear the present hour.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SUMTER STATION, S. C., *February 15, 1865—a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

Generals Stevenson and Hampton report from Columbia enemy has appeared in their front and driven their pickets across Congaree at railroad bridge near Kingsville. They consider movement on Columbia serious. I am on my return there.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 15, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
General-in-Chief, Richmond, Va.:

Have just arrived from Charleston. Generals Stevenson and Hampton report Sherman's four corps moving on this place, two of them pressing our troops back on south side to within about four miles of the river. Cheatham's corps has not yet arrived. We will hold the city as long as practicable with present available means.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 15, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
General-in-Chief, Richmond, Va.:

Indications are now positive to my mind that enemy intends moving on Charlotte. I cannot concentrate in time sufficient force to check him. Shall I continue in his front, or put my base toward Georgia or North Carolina? I advise removing soon as possible all stores from his line of march. Please answer.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Columbia, S. C., February 15, 1865.

Maj. R. RHETT,
Assistant Quartermaster:

General Beauregard wishes every effort made to remove all quartermaster stores from this place to some point on the Charlotte railroad beyond Chesterville.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Columbia, S. C., February 15, 1865.

Capt. J. D. WITHERSPOON,
Assistant Commissary of Subsistence:

CAPTAIN: General Beauregard directs that all the subsistence stores, except 50,000 rations, be sent from the city in the direction of Chesterville and Charlotte, N. C.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 15, 1865.*

COMMANDING OFFICER CHESTERVILLE, S. C.:

Please have trains unloaded that they may be returned promptly. Impress labor if needed.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Similar dispatch to commanding officer Charlotte, N. C.)

FLORENCE, *February 15, 1865—7 a. m.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Order all roads and bridges repaired on the three routes designated. Horses impressed in and about Charleston must be used for remounting Young's cavalry. Impress also saddles and bridles if necessary.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SUMTERVILLE, S. C., *February 15, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Commence immediately movement as arranged, and if practicable average twenty miles a day. Collect at once sufficient provisions and forage at proper points on several routes designated.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 15, 1865.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Dispatch of to-day received, containing President's dispatch.* I have far from sufficient force to hold the enemy in check in the field. He is at this moment investing Columbia with his four corps (as reported) on the south side of Congaree. Hence I see no good reason for deviating from the plan already decided upon; on the contrary, I urge its immediate execution.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 15, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Send here soon as practicable 1,000,000 rounds small-arms ammunition and 2,500 rounds 12-pounder Napoleon.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, February 15, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Columbia, S. C.:

GENERAL: General Cheatham's corps left this morning with Palmer's battalion artillery. The larger part of Stewart's corps has reached here and will move pursuant to your orders as soon as it can be put in condition to do so. It will muster only 1,000 effectives. The whole command is in a bad condition. Ferguson has been directed by General Hill to take position on Brier Creek and Iverson has been moved over the river. No news from the West. The enemy seems to have gone from our immediate front.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Davis to Hardee, February 14, p. 1181.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 38. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, February 15, 1865.*

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XLII. Capt. R. H. Fitzhugh, Corps of Engineers, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to duty with the chief engineer Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, and will report to Lieut. Gen. W. J. Hardee, commanding, &c., Charleston, S. C.

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By command of the Secretary of War :

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 15, 1865.*

General McLAWS:

Our safety depends on your giving me prompt information of any movement of the enemy from Branchville or Orangeburg toward Four Hole Swamp. Send an engine up the road, if necessary.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND AND THIRD SUB-DISTS., SOUTH CAROLINA,
Charleston, February 15, 1865.

Brig. Gen. S. ELLIOTT:

GENERAL: It has been determined to evacuate Charleston. I have to beg that you will continue in command of the troops now with you, if you cannot longer, at least until you cross the Santee.

I. It is the present intention to evacuate on Friday night; if that day shall be anticipated or a later day fixed, you will be duly notified.

II. I desire you to make every preparation for the destruction of your guns and gun carriages, and such powder as may be left in your magazines as may be consistent with a safe retreat. To burn your gun carriages or to attempt to burst your guns or blow up the magazines would perhaps be an intimation of our intention prematurely to the enemy, therefore you will destroy the gun carriages as far as practicable by sawing and cutting them to pieces, your guns by spiking and shotting them, and your powder by throwing it into the water.

III. You will move out from your lines at an early hour on Friday night, withdrawing first from Battery Trenholm, then from Secessionville, then through Fort Johnson and Haskell sections of the commands, and lastly from the new lines, Pringle and Tynes, and concentrate your troops near McCloud's house.

IV. You will then march across the Wappoo Creek by the nearest route to Ashley Ferry (bridge); cross the Ashley and down the Dorchester road to the intersection of that road with the State road leading to Monk's Corner, where you will halt until joined by the troops from Charleston, or until further orders are given you. It is important to accomplish this march by morning.

V. You will leave your ordinary picket in front of the new lines. This picket will consist of picked men under picked officers, who will retire after you have concentrated your troops, and which must be put on picket on the night of the evacuation in order that they may be fresh.

VI. You will leave a few cavalry at the new lines and Fort Johnson until morning, when they will observe and report to you any operations of the enemy. These cavalry parties will burn the bridges across the James Island Creek, at Dill's Bluff, and the bridges near Holmes' house and Newtown Cut; also the pontoon, drawbridge, and upper Wappoo Cut bridge, near Fort Pemberton. The infantry picket will act as provost guard and bring up all stragglers.

VII. You will order the troops on the line of the Stono, in Saint Andrews, on the main and the overflow, to conform to your movements and join you at such point as you think proper.

VIII. When you move you will require your troops to march compactly, commanding officers of companies in rear of their companies, and permit no soldier to break ranks for any purpose without permission of the commanding officer of his company. Direct the officer to enforce this, if necessary, by shooting the offender.

IX. You will halt your troops at proper intervals, stack arms, and call the roll, allowing your troops to rest a reasonable time.

X. You will require your ambulances (or two-horse wagons substituted for ambulances) to march in rear of each organization, to convey such men as may be unable to march, and will require the surgeons to march in rear of their several organizations to decide whether the condition of the soldiers entitles them to such transportation. This and preceding paragraph will apply to all future marches.

XI. You will send to the city to-day or early to-morrow morning all your sick, and such men as are not fit for active service, and you will also forward to-day and to-night such surplus material, ordnance, and ordnance stores as in your judgment can be spared with due regard to holding your lines to the day of evacuation. This is not intended to apply to shot and shell for heavy guns, for which we have no transportation, or to other than fixed ammunition for your guns of small caliber.

XII. I desire you to issue five days' rations to your troops, commencing on Thursday morning, which will give you two days' rations in camp, and three days' rations on the march. Of these five days' rations, three days' rations at least (or at your discretion all) must consist of hard bread and bacon at the rate of one pound hard bread and one-half pound bacon to the ration. If you have sugar or coffee now on the island, either for general issue or hospital purposes, issue five days' sugar and coffee to your men.

XIII. For the purpose of preventing any incumbrance or impediment to our movements, you will require Captain Mordecai, assistant quartermaster, to distribute according to the order sent you yesterday the transportation for your command. You will have the wagons parked for each command at an early hour on to-morrow morning (16th instant), and will notify commanding officers of your different organizations that the load of each wagon will be weighed by the division quartermaster, and that any excess of 1,500 pounds to each four-horse wagon, or 700 pounds to each two-horse wagon, will be thrown off and abandoned when it reports to him.

XIV. In packing the wagons regard will be had first to men and officers' cooking utensils; second, to officers' bedding, and third, to officers' clothing. No trunk or box for officers (except hand-trunks) containing clothing will be packed on any wagons except staff wagons.

XV. These wagons will report by 12 m. on the 16th instant to your district quartermaster, Captain Mordecai (who will act as quartermaster of your command until the crossing of the Santee), at his

wagon yard in Saint Andrew's Parish, when you will direct him to move with the least possible delay with these and such other wagons as he may be required by myself to take charge of to Saint Stephen's Depot, on the Northeastern Railroad, pursuing the route indicated for the march of your troops across the Ashley, &c.

XVI. You will send a staff or such line officer as you may detail with a small detail of couriers and guides to examine the route indicated for our march and select the best road.

XVII. Colonel Colcock with his cavalry will burn the Ashley Ferry bridge after its passage by your command.

XVIII. Before leaving the island you will cause all boats to be destroyed. I shall rely upon your judgment and discretion to give such other instructions as you may deem necessary to accomplish the desired object.

XIX. You will inform signal and telegraph operators of your movements so that they may escape with their instruments.

[W. B. TALIAFERRO.]

BATTERY BEE,
February 15, 1865—6 a. m.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Sumter:

I think that if the whole of Parker's battery be left at Andersonville, one gun of Le Gardeur's battery be sent to Graham's and another to Buck Hall, with a support of 100 men, that it would render the position secure. Have not made the arrangements, and shall not do it unless I receive orders from General Taliaferro, as the firing on Stono renders it possible Le Gardeur's will be needed there.

RHETT,
Colonel.

BATTERY BEE,
February 15, 1865—6 p. m.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Sumter:

Your dispatch just received 2.10 p. m. The information you ask for has been sent you in repeated dispatches. I will leave Mount Pleasant immediately to see the general. I should like to send two Parrott guns now on the lines to Andersonville, and send on a section of Parker's battery to McClellanville.

RHETT,
Colonel.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 15, 1865.*

Major-General STEVENSON,
South Side of the River:

Have just received your note of 7 p. m. I had already given my general instructions to General Hampton, who parted from me about one hour since, to following effect: Hold the other side of river as long as practicable without endangering safety of the troops, then hold bridge-head long enough to save all wagons, artillery, &c.; then if forced back from there destroy a part of the bridge at both extremities; put guns in position on this side to command approach of the

bridge and to enfilade it. Construct works on this side to keep enemy's batteries as far from city as possible. The city must then be held as long as circumstances will permit to give time to our re-enforcements to arrive. When forced back retire toward Winnsborough.

I will see you in the morning.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 15, 1865.*

Maj. N. W. SMITH,

Chief Inspector Field Transportation:

MAJOR: I wish to place 1,000 or 1,500 men on the Edgefield plank road, about ten miles from the city, to guard approach in that direction. It will be impossible to do so without wagons for supplies and baggage. What can you do toward supplying Stewart's corps so that it may move as soon as concentrated?

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 15, 1865.

Major-General WALTHALL:

GENERAL: You will take charge of the troops at Graniteville and Bath. A regiment with two pieces of artillery should be at the latter place. Major Hamilton was directed to send you a battery. Colonel Hannon's brigade, with the exception of 100 men, is ordered off to-morrow. The force left is directed to watch your front and to report to you for orders.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 15, 1865.*

Captain HAZZARD:

If you can be useful in harassing the Yankees and stopping marauding remain until the 20th. I wish you by all means to keep us constantly apprised of any movement of the Yankees this way by the plank road from Edgefield.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 15, 1865—9 p. m.*

Major-General CHEATHAM:

GENERAL: I send you dispatch with translation. Walthall will follow you to-morrow. As he has no cavalry, that with you ought to cover his flank also, if possible.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 15, 1865—7.15 a. m.*

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: I think your best movement would be to get in front of the Yankees and delay their movement upon Columbia.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

FEBRUARY 15, 1865—2 p. m.

Colonel GRIGSBY (of General Wheeler's staff),
Boozer's House:

COLONEL: Major-General Hampton directs me to say that he is instructed by General Beauregard to notify Generals Wheeler, Cheatham, and Stewart, when in his opinion the emergency requires that the troops at or near Augusta should move to Columbia. Notice has been sent by General Hampton, in General Beauregard's name, and also by General Stevenson, urging the movement of all the available force at or near Augusta to co-operate with the troops under General Stevenson and General Hampton, operating now near Columbia. General Hampton desires me to say that the enemy are pressing heavily on General Stevenson's line, on the State road from Orangeburg to Columbia, and are also threatening the positions of General Stevenson's right, which is at present only defended by cavalry, on Congaree Creek. A column of infantry and cavalry is also reported moving on the road leading from Orangeburg to Lexington. General Hampton thinks that the most urgent necessity exists for the most rapid movement possible of Generals Wheeler, Cheatham, and Stewart's commands to accomplish a junction with the troops now defending Columbia. He desires General Wheeler to communicate this to Generals Cheatham and Stewart or their representatives in command. A vigorous attack by their troops in flank and rear of the enemy, even after they cross Congaree Creek, would relieve Columbia and enable us to hold the line of the Congaree. General Hampton urges General Wheeler to push on and re-enforce the picket-line of Butler's division, now extended on Congaree Creek. In case the enemy succeed in driving our lines in, so as to interrupt the road from Edgefield to Columbia, General Butler has been ordered to take up the line of the Saluda. At present, however, it is hoped that the line of the Congaree Creek, four miles below Columbia, will be held until the troops from Augusta arrive.

Respectfully,

THEODORE G. BARKER,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

A courier just in reports the enemy has crossed at Strickland's, on the Orangeburg and Lexington road, advancing rapidly.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 15, 1865—8 p. m.

Major-General WHEELER:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Beauregard to say that he wishes you to move to Columbia at once. The bearer will also explain the wishes of the general in other particulars.

Very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CREWS' CAVALRY BRIGADE,
February 15, 1865.

Capt. B. A. TERRETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have just been ordered by General Hill to report to General Cheatham on the Graniteville and Bethlehem roads. Colonel Hannon is at this time relieving my command.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. C. CREWS,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 15, 1865—7.30 a. m.*

General IVERSON:

Send down Lewis' brigade to Augusta to-day. You may remain in person to see General Ferguson and explain matters to him. You can at once recall the pickets at the different bridges and let them come down to-night.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 15, 1865.

General FERGUSON,
Green's Cut:

GENERAL: You will remain for the present on Brier Creek and will relieve all the pickets and scouts of Lewis' brigade. Keep a small party on the Savannah as low as Stony Bluff to give notice of Yankee movements and to resist as far as practicable a crossing to the Georgia side. You will try to arrest stragglers and deserters either by keeping scouting parties on the roads leading to the upper bridges or by keeping pickets at these bridges. A line of pickets or scouts must cover and protect the telegraph wires to Millen. Your own headquarters should be near Green's Cut, near telegraph office, and the bulk of your command be kept there ready to move at a moment's notice.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

P. S.—General Iverson has been instructed to remain in person until he has given you all the requisite information in regard to the country, picket-line, &c.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 15, 1865.

Colonel HANNON,
Aiken:

COLONEL: You will leave from 75 to 100 men under a first-rate officer to picket in front of Aiken. The officer will report to Major-General Walthall, at Graniteville, and will also report by courier and telegraph to me all important movements of the Yankees. You will

move at daylight to-morrow with the remainder of your command to Treadway Post-Office, on Upper Three Runs, and there report to Major General Young of the cavalry and be subject to his orders. You will take with you two days' rations for man and horse.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 15, 1865.

Brig. Gen. LOUIS HÉBERT,
Chief Engineer:

GENERAL: In reply to your letter of the 14th instant, covering a copy of the report of Captain Liernur, engineer, the major-general commanding directs me to say that it is not necessary to lay a pontoon bridge at the Hilton Ferry crossing of the Northeast River. He desires that all available flats will be collected, and with a steamer be held ready to transfer the forces now at Fort Anderson to this bank of the river, should the necessity arise.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 6 [16?], 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Columbia, S. C.:

Your telegrams of yesterday received. You can better judge of the necessity for evacuating Charleston than I can. Such full preparations had been made that I had hoped for other and better results, and the disappointment is to me extremely bitter. The re-enforcements calculated on from reserves and militia of Georgia and South Carolina, together with the troops ordered from Mississippi, must have fallen much short of estimate. What can be done with the naval squadron, the torpedo boats, and your valuable heavy guns at Charleston? Do not allow cotton stored there to become prize of the enemy, as was the case at Savannah. From reverse, however sad, if you are sustained by unity and determination among the people, we can look hopefully forward. I suppose General Lee has communicated with you directly. Your promised notes of conference will be anxiously looked for.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., February 16, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Columbia, S. C.:

If there be danger at Columbia take the promptest and most efficient measures to save the machinery at the armory.

J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., February 16, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD, *Columbia, S. C.:*

Our necessities here are great. Why interfere with provisions at Charlotte Junction, ordered here by Commissary-General? Unless your necessities are very great they should be sent here.

J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 16, 1865—2 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
General-in-Chief, Richmond, Va.:

I returned last evening from Charleston. I shall assume command to-day of all forces in South Carolina. The present military situation is thus: Our forces, about 20,000 effective infantry and artillery, more or less demoralized, occupy a circumference of about 240 miles from Charleston to Augusta. The enemy, well organized and disciplined, and flushed with success, numbering nearly double our force, is concentrated upon one point (Columbia) of that circumference. Unless I can concentrate rapidly here, or in my rear, all available troops, the result cannot be long doubtful. General Hardee still hesitates to abandon Charleston, notwithstanding I have repeatedly urged him to do so, thereby losing several days of vital importance to future operations.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 16, 1865—2.30 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
General-in-Chief, Richmond, Va.:

Enemy commenced shelling the city this morning. He is apparently moving up toward Saluda River. Our forces occupy south bank of that stream and Congaree.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 16, 1865—6 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
General-in-Chief, Richmond, Va.:

Enemy has forced a passage across the Saluda River above Columbia. I will endeavor to prevent him from crossing the Broad, but my forces here are so small it is doubtful whether I can prevent it. Columbia will soon have to be evacuated.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

(Same to General Hardee.)

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 16, 1865.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

General Pillow, at Montgomery, tenders his services to fill up ranks of Army of Tennessee, if Government will give him control of that branch of service west of Savannah River, subject to my orders. Assistants could be furnished him from best of supernumerary officers. I approve his proposition. It is of highest importance to collect at once all stragglers and absentees from army.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

MONTGOMERY, *February 16, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

Will move office to Macon to-morrow.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *February 16, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

The wagon trains of Cheatham and Lee have been communicated with and will proceed by land, according to original orders. Route unchanged. The army trains, fifty wagons, will proceed by land, via Columbus, instead of West Point; all to pass through Macon. Similar orders have been left for Stewart's train.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., February 16, 1865.

Col. E. E. PORTLOCK,
Assistant Inspector-General:

COLONEL: Representations have been made from so many quarters prejudicial to the character of Wheeler's cavalry as to make it desirable that an examination should be made respecting their foundation, as, if true, they are calculated (as they have been said to have done) to produce disaffection amongst the people and to bring reproach upon our arms. Whilst so constantly engaged in front of the enemy, it is impossible to make a regular inspection, but by visiting their camps and observing their management and the degree of discipline exercised, and in passing over the country through which they have operated you can learn enough to be able to report advisedly. With large bodies of troops, especially cavalry, there must occur some irregularities, growing out of straggling, but where the latter prevails to an extent which impairs the efficiency of a command, and depredations or outrages are committed indiscriminately, it is sufficient grounds upon which to suspect inefficiency. See what system is pursued to prevent straggling; what punishments, if any, have been inflicted for irregularities, and what means are adopted to supply men and animals of his command. See and examine the inspectors upon this subject, report facts coming under your observation, or where complaints are made let them be substantiated by the proper affidavits or certificates. Abuses which can be corrected by the commanding general report to him for correction, advising this office of that fact. In fact, colonel, your mission is to report abuses wherever found, and to correct them in so far as can be done through department commanders, with whom you will communicate upon all points over which their authority extends. As nothing of an official character has been reported respecting the cavalry referred to, you will consider the rumors herein reported as merely designed to direct your attention to alleged abuses, and, found incorrect, to disabuse

by a report of facts the impressions at present prevailing. Of course the remarks and instructions are confidential, your order for the inspection being sufficient to secure you the necessary facilities.

I am, colonel, respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General.

By direction of the Adjutant and Inspector General, your accounts for personal expenses, &c., upon being certified to by yourself, will be paid by any quartermaster without being referred to this office for approval.

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 39. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, February 16, 1865.*

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XXII. While on the way to Florida (as directed in paragraph VII, Special Orders, No. 29, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, series of 1865), Col. E. E. Portlock, jr., will make such inspection as is practicable of the cavalry under Major-General Wheeler, and of the reported depredations committed by that command while on the march. The quartermaster's department will, upon application, furnish him the necessary transportation to execute this order.

* * * * * * *

XXVI. Brig. Gen. N. G. Evans, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to duty in Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, and will report to General G. T. Beauregard, commanding, &c.

* * * * * * *

XXXIII. Brig. Gen. E. M. Law, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to duty and will report for orders to General Braxton Bragg, Wilmington, N. C.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 1. } HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE WEST, *Columbia, S. C., February 16, 1865.*

By order of the President, I assume command of all the troops operating in the State of South Carolina. Lieutenant-Generals Hardee and Hampton and Major-Generals Stevenson and Wheeler will report direct to these headquarters.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

CHARLESTON, *February 16, 1865.*
(Received 9.50 a. m. 17th.)

His Excellency President DAVIS:

The following dispatch received to-day from General Beauregard:

Dispatch of to-day received, containing President's dispatch. I have far from sufficient force to hold the enemy in check in the field. He is at this moment investing Columbia with his four corps (as reported) on the south side of Congaree. Hence I see no good reason for deviating from the plan already decided upon; on the contrary, I urge its immediate execution.

W. J. HARDEE.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 16, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

Your telegram from Columbia received. On receipt of your dispatch yesterday from Florence, preparations been again pushed forward. The movement will begin to-day, and be carried out without delay.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 16, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

General Hardee has been sick in bed for two days, threatened with typhoid fever. His surgeon says he must be sent off to-morrow. I have telegraphed General McLaws, who is the next in rank, to come to Charleston and take command.

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 16, 1865.*

Major-General MCLAWS:

General Hardee has been sick in bed for two days, and must be sent off to-morrow. He desires you to turn over your command, your instructions, and your staff to the next in rank, and come here at once to take command. Have you an engine that you can come down on? Otherwise, I will send you one.

T. B. ROY.
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Morning report of Harrison's Brigade, commanded by Col. George P. Harrison.

Commands.	Present for duty.		Present.	
	Total.	Aggregate.	Total.	Aggregate.
5th Georgia Regiment (Daniel)	180	205	259	290
32d Georgia Regiment (Bacon)	242	256	310	328
47th Georgia Regiment (Connor)	155	169	191	206
1st South Carolina Cavalry (dismounted) (Trezevant)	40	43	46	49
Grand total	617	673	806	873

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

TWO MILES AND A HALF FROM DEAN'S BRIDGE,
February 16, 1865.

BATTERY BEE,
February 16, 1865—1 p. m.

Captain PAGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, City:

The following dispatch has been received from Andersonville:

The number of the fleet remains the same at 12 this noon as at 11.10 last p. m. Two barges were quite busy sounding in front of Palmetto Point. One came in quite

near the shore, but a party of six men fired on her. She moved off. During the time they were sounding signaling was kept up between barges and a tug. Their distance about one mile from shore.

Dispatch from Graham's just received says that a barge has been moving about mouth of creek also engaged in sounding. One of the steamers has just gone up to mouth of creek.

Respectfully,

M. J. KIRK,
Captain.

BATTERY MARSHALL,
February 16, 1865—2.20 p. m.

SIGNAL OPERATOR,
Palmetto Battery:

Be ready to move at a moment's notice. Save all the most valuable Government property. Orders and messages burnt.

METARD,
Sergeant.

BATTERY MARSHALL,
February 16, 1865—2.45 p. m.

SIGNAL OPERATOR,
Palmetto Battery:

Keep an extraordinary good watch on G——. Destroy all papers. Keep none.

METARD,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Columbia, S. C., February 16, 1865.

Maj. Gen. B. F. CHEATHAM,
Commanding Corps:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs me to say that, as the enemy now occupies a position between his forces and those under yourself, he deems it best that you move to the Greenville railroad at the nearest point, and, if forced by the enemy, take cars with your command to Abbeville and await further orders, reporting to these headquarters your arrival and the condition of your command. You will also report to Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill your movements, that Lieutenant-General Stewart may be kept advised.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 16, 1865—10.30 p. m.*

General WALTHALL:

GENERAL: I am sorry that the wagons were not sent out as ordered last night. This may delay your movement until to-morrow, and then your march so far in rear of Cheatham will be hazardous. You ought to get as near him as possible. General Young, with a strong cavalry

force, is ordered to cover your movement. He will not reach Graniteville till night. Our information to-day by courier-line, not official, is that the Yankees occupy Lexington. You had better, then, march by Bauskett's Mill to Ridge Post-Office and halt there, if your information is such as to make it dangerous to go beyond. There is still a route open to Columbia from Ridge Post-Office by Germanville and Lee's Ferry on Saluda River.

Respectfully, &c.,

D. H. HILL.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 16, 1865.*

General WADE HAMPTON,
Columbia, S. C.:

It gives me pleasure to inform you that the Senate yesterday confirmed my nomination of you to be lieutenant-general. As you were not advised of the nomination you may not have anticipated such action, but will understand it as an expression of my appreciation of your past services and confidence in your ability and future usefulness. You have my best wishes for you personally, and highest hopes of you officially.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 16, 1865—3 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER,
Present:

I regret to hear the enemy has crossed the Saluda. Endeavor by all means to prevent him from crossing the Broad. Burn the bridge should it become necessary. Send a messenger to Generals Cheatham and Hill to inform them of the present state of affairs.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

COLUMBIA, S. C., *February 16, 1865.*

Maj. JOHN G. STOKES,
Spotswood Hotel, Richmond, Va.:

Hampton will apply. Stay until you hear from the papers or from me. Enemy in front of Columbia. Hope to hold it.

E. M. LAW,
Brigadier-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., February 17, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Columbia, S. C.:

Two trains belonging to the State of Georgia have been impressed to remove stores from Charleston. Georgia has cotton on the road. Return the trains to her agent unless they are employed for the removal of troops, ordnance, or other Confederate property of more importance than cotton, and return them as early as practicable in any event.

J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 17, 1865—9.30 p. m.*
(Received 12 p. m.)

General BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.:

Far from interfering with provisions at Charlotte Junction, I have done all I could to send everything forward from Columbia. I advise removal of all supplies, except 200,000 rations, from Charlotte to a safer place farther north. No time should be lost.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 17, 1865—9.30 p. m.*
(Received 11 o'clock.)

General J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.:

Whilst in Augusta I ordered preparations made for removal of all stores and supplies, but deficiency of trains and lack of energy failed to accomplish all that was required; much, however, was removed.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 40. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, February 17, 1865.*

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XVII. Maj. Gen. A. Elzey, Provisional Army, C. S., is hereby relieved from duty as chief of artillery, Army of Tennessee.

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By command of Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 17, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
General-in-Chief, Richmond, Va.:

I believe the suggestion of General Gorgas impracticable, but will recommend it to General McLaws.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 17, 1865—9.30 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

Enemy having forced crossing of Saluda and Broad Rivers above Columbia, city had to be evacuated this morning. My forces are now retiring on this place. Everything possible shall be done to retard enemy's advance, but I cannot separate cavalry from infantry without fear of disaster, owing to small number of latter, only about 3,000 effectives. Moreover, having no supply trains troops must move along railroads.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 17, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Columbia, S. C.:

GENERAL: My last dispatches of the 15th were returned by courier, but reforwarded yesterday with instructions to cross the Saluda and go down the north bank. Cheatham encamped last night at Norris' Store and designed moving to-day toward the left to Mount Willing and thence to Lee's Ferry. Walthall, with Stewart's corps, left yesterday, accompanied by Crews. General Stewart has not yet come up. The artillery is coming on slowly. The troops having passed General Hill is desirous of leaving. This was contemplated by you in your instructions. But should the enemy occupy Columbia and the army falls back toward the Savannah I deem it better for him to remain here. I have sent officers to Washington and Abbeville to see about stores and the pontoon bridge. Be good enough to give me further instructions about General Hill and my own movements.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Columbia, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Col. G. W. BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

COLONEL: The commanding general directs me to inform you that we leave here this morning, retreating in the direction of Charlotte, N. C. Chesterville, S. C., is the first point of concentration, and if it cannot be accomplished there, then Charlotte, N. C. Every inch of ground will be contested, and it is hoped Cheatham and Stewart may reach Charlotte at least in time to join us. Let the orders for Cheatham and Stewart to join us remain in force and be executed with the least delay practicable, by the best and shortest routes, according to existing circumstances. The following routes might be followed by troops and trains moving to Charlotte, or Chesterville, according to circumstances:

First. Augusta, Edgefield, Newberry, and Chesterville. That portion of the route from Newberry to Chesterville may be unsafe should the enemy advance northward from his present position, extending along Broad River from Columbia toward Alston. It is not yet known how near he is to the latter place.

Second. Augusta, Edgefield, Ninety-six Depot, on the Greenville and Columbia Railroad; Huntsville, on the Laurensville and Newberry Railroad; Unionville and Chesterville.

Third. Route, Washington, Abbeville, Laurensville, Unionville, and Chesterville.

Should the concentration have to be made north of Chesterville, from Laurensville, the troops should move on to Spartansburg, thence to Yorkville or Shelby, N. C., thence to Charlotte. Provisions and forage should be collected in advance, at proper points on any of the routes indicated which may be selected or adopted. Working parties should be sent in advance to repair roads and bridges, or construct bridges when required. A detachment of cavalry should accompany each

column of troops, or each wagon train moving as above referred to. The troops and trains should not be sent in small detachments, but should move regularly, as much as circumstances will permit.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ELEVEN MILES FROM COLUMBIA, *February 17, 1865—2 p. m.*

Captain SHARP,
Assistant Quartermaster, Ridgeway, S. C.:

General Beauregard directs that an engine be sent to this point as soon as possible to take forward the train with ladies, stores, &c., left here this morning. If Captain Sharp is not at Ridgeway this order must be communicated by telegraph to the nearest officer or railroad agent controlling transportation.

By command of General Beauregard:

A. R. CHISOLM,
Aide-de-Camp.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 17, 1865.*

His Excellency Governor MAGRATH,
Winnsborough, S. C.:

Please send some reliable person to Alston to ascertain the truthfulness of the reports from that place and communicate. General Wheeler is on the direct road from Columbia to Winnsborough. You can communicate with him.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 17, 1865.

Lieut. Col. G. A. HENRY, *Assistant Inspector-General:*

COLONEL: General Beauregard directs you send an inspector to Barnett and Washington to inspect the condition of the road between those points and ascertain the progress made in its repair. He will look also closely into the manner in which public property is taken care of at those points. Five days' rations for 15,000 men were ordered to be stored at Washington. The condition of the road may have prevented the strict execution of this order by storing them at Barnett. He will see if they are at Barnett. From Washington he will proceed to Abbeville, S. C., examining the road to ascertain its condition and what progress is being made in its repair. He will also inquire whether any depots have been established along that route for gathering and concentrating of the tithe due from the tax in kind. A pontoon bridge has been directed to be thrown across the Savannah at the most eligible point on this road. It is desirable to know what steps have been taken in the execution of this order by Major McCrady, of Augusta, who was charged with this duty. At Abbeville, S. C., ten days' rations were ordered for 15,000 men. At Washington and Abbeville he will obtain a roster of the post officers, and observe whether they are competent and efficient.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obebient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 17, 1865.

Maj. N. W. SMITH,
Inspector of Field Transportation:

MAJOR: I am instructed to say that General Beauregard does not approve of the contracts made by Major Bryan for the carriage of private freight in Government wagons between Mayfield and Midway. Independently of the consideration of its irregularity, it is improper and injudicious, from the fact that, as our transportation is limited, it is necessary to preserve our teams, and they should not be worn out by hauling heavy private property. It not only exhausts them but it retards the public business. Moreover, our sick and wounded furloughed men returning to their homes should be entitled to the benefit of such transportation. General Beauregard has, in view of these considerations, given orders that all private freight be in future thrown out of the Government wagons, and he requests that you will instruct Major Bryan to recall and annul the contracts made by him.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLESTON, *February 17, 1865.*
(Received 6.20 19th.)

General S. COOPER:

General Hardee has been sick for some days and was sent off by his surgeon to-day. Maj. Gen. L. McLaws, the next in rank, will be here to take command this evening.

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Seven Miles from Columbia, on Rice's Creek Spring Road,
February 17, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. W. HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: General Beauregard wishes you to inform General Stevenson that, in view of the danger of the enemy crossing Broad River above Wheeler's right, it is deemed best that Stevenson and his command should reach Cookham to-night, between Big Cedar and Little Cedar Creek, and his train the vicinity of Ridgeway, if possible. Cookham is about eighteen miles from Columbia; Ridgeway about twenty-five miles. The cavalry will necessarily follow its movements. Delay the enemy as much as possible. I will await at Killian's Station to hear from you. The general wishes you to keep him advised of the enemy's movements.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Columbia, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Maj. Gen. JOS. WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Beauregard to inform you that on leaving the city he will take the common road along the railroad to Winnsborough, expecting to stop, until further orders, at the Rice Spring road, about twelve miles from here.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALB. FERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FEBRUARY *17, 1865—8.20 a. m.*

Major-General WHEELER:

GENERAL: When General Stevenson withdraws he will move over to the Charlotte railroad. You will cover his left by taking care of the direct Winnsborough road. Keep one portion of your command in front of the enemy as he advances on the town and try to check him on this the Broad River road. I will be at Killian's Mill (Ford's Mill) to-night.

Very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLOTTE RAILROAD, *February 17, 1865—12.25 p. m.*

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Corps:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 11.15 a. m. just received. Everything is now clear, and you can move in the direction indicated. Communicate, if possible, with General Humes and the other troops beyond him. Picket the road you withdraw on, and cover the Winnsborough road by keeping a brigade on it. It is important to ascertain if there is any movement in direction of Winnsborough, or up the river. Can you locate the cavalry of the enemy? Send scouts to gain all the information possible. Communicate with me at Killian's Mill.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 17, 1865—7.45 [a. m.]

General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry:

The enemy have crossed the river to an island formed by the river and a slough in our front. They will soon effect a crossing to the mainland. Please have some cavalry to cover any movement to the rear that it may be necessary for me to make.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C L STEVENSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, February 17, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

In obedience to orders received from Major-General Wheeler, I respectfully submit the following report in regard to the failure to burn the bridge across the Congaree Creek: The enemy advancing upon the State road in heavy force drove Colonel Breckinridge back to the forks of the road just beyond the creek, where he was joined by Colonel McLemore, and temporary breast-works made of rails. The infantry picketing at the creek had partially prepared the bridge for burning; the bridge being very wet, covered with mud and it still raining, I believed the bridge would not burn and therefore ordered Captain Wright to prepare it, by piling on more rails and making every preparation he could. In the meantime Major-General Butler, to whom I was reporting, came upon the field, and expressed his opinion that we could hold the bridge against any force that would come against it. He further directed that if the enemy crossed above or below, we must concentrate against him and still hold the position across the creek. Finding the enemy was concentrating in heavy force upon each flank, I requested General Butler to let me retire across the bridge so that I could effectually destroy it. This request was made more than an hour before we were driven across the bridge, and no answer was received to this request until after we were driven back. As soon as we were driven across the bridge it was set on fire. Our men retired to the earth-works, and the enemy kept away from the bridge until all the rails, &c., upon it had burned up, and until the enemy had effected a crossing elsewhere, and the infantry supporting our left had been withdrawn. The enemy kept up such a heavy fire with small-arms and artillery upon the bridge after we retired, that we could not cut it down without great loss of life. Had I been allowed to retire when I requested it, my intention was to cut the bridge down. I feel that I am not responsible for the failure to destroy the bridge and know that the officers and men under my command are not. They displayed great gallantry in defending the bridge for five or six hours, under constant fire.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 17, 1865—9.30 p. m.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

Lieutenant Chapin has just arrived from Hughey's Ferry, thirty-one miles from Columbia, and reports General Humes crossing his command at that point, but thinks he will not be able to get all across to-day. General Humes' spoke of sending the Second Kentucky Regiment twelve miles below Hughey's Ferry, where it could cross.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding Cavalry Division.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 17, 1865.

Major-General YOUNG,
Aiken, S. C.:

GENERAL: Colonel Hannon reports no enemy at Williston. It seems to me, then, that you had better unite Crews, now at Leesville, with you and harass Sherman's rear on the Congaree or make a push for Barnwell Court-House, and get all his hospitals, depots, &c., on the north side of the river. Inform me by letter, and not by telegraph, what route you take. I need not hint to so prompt a soldier as yourself the necessity of dispatch. Should Sherman take Kingstree, Hardee can only get out by way of Orangeburg, and it may be best for you to strike for that point. I leave the matter entirely to you as you must be better informed than myself as to position of the Yankees. Please telegraph to me the receipt of this dispatch as courier-line is uncertain.

Respectfully and truly, your obedient servant,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, *February 17, 1865.*

Maj. F. S. PARKER:

Will leave this evening and stop one day in Raleigh.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 17, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

General Schofield with part of his corps is now at Morehead City; the rest expected. Their design is against Goldsborough, and perhaps Greensborough in connection with Sherman. I have in my possession an order from Schofield to Terry. They have been demonstrating against me for four or five days.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Major PARKER,
Aide-de-Camp:

Send above dispatch to General Lee, putting those letters underscored in cipher if you have a signal officer who understands it. Let it go at once.

Respectfully, yours,

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 17, 1865.

Col. GEORGE JACKSON,
Commanding Post:

COLONEL: It has been represented that a quantity of tobacco and naval stores are stored in the city. The major-general commanding directs that immediate measures be taken for the removal of the latter,

and so much of the tobacco as may not be required by the commissary of subsistence for issue to the troops at this point. Transportation will be furnished by the quartermaster's department upon requisition.

I am, very respectfully, &c.,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 17, 1865.

Col. GEORGE JACKSON,
Commanding Post:

COLONEL: Captain Grainger's presence about the railroads is now so necessary from the increased demands for transportation as to render it impossible for his attendance with the guard to the removal of cotton secreted in the city. Until further orders, the major-general commanding desires that you will assign Captain Toomer, assistant quartermaster of your command, to the duty of removing the cotton to the depots. Captain Huggins will furnish all necessary wagons.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 17, 1865.*
(Received 6.30 o'clock.)

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

The enemy have Columbia, and reported on this side. It is dangerous to keep the Federal officers here.

WM. J. HOKE,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

CHARLOTTE, *February 17, 1865.*
(Received 18th.)

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE,
Wilmington:

The enemy hold Columbia. Arrangements should be made to hold Charlotte.

W. J. HOKE,
Colonel, Commanding.

CHARLOTTE, *February 17, 1865.*
(Received 18th.)

Major-General HOKE,
Wilmington:

I am ordered to ship all stores from this place. Give me all the transportation that can be sent.

W. J. HOKE,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 17, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE,
Wilmington:

One brigade of Seventeenth Army Corps, Thomas' army, arrived at New Berne Tuesday. They have a pontoon train. Scouts report the whole corps coming.

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

Taliaferro is preferable to McLaws, but he is ranked by the latter and Major-General Wright.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 41. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, February 18, 1865.*

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XXIX. Col. John B. Sale, assistant adjutant-general, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to duty with General Braxton Bragg, commanding, &c., Wilmington, N. C., and will report accordingly.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 18, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Columbia, S. C.:

GENERAL: I inclose you telegram from General Taylor as to the enemy's movements in his department. All is quiet in our immediate front, no enemy being reported within twenty miles of Aiken. We have no advices from the east, as to the condition of affairs in front of Columbia. Storrs' battalion of artillery has arrived; Johnston's is daily expected. General Young will move this evening toward Orangeburg, and endeavor to feel the enemy's rear. Headquarters were removed yesterday from Montgomery to Macon. Nearly all of General Hood's staff have reached here. I have placed all the inspectors on duty, having need for them, also the chief quartermaster and assistant commissary. The remainder will remain here for further orders, except Major Moore, chief commissary. He desires a leave of absence to visit Richmond, which I declined granting him, and directed him to report to you as soon as practicable. He is a most valuable and efficient officer. I do not think he has his equal, and as I do not know your wishes, I have directed him to you.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

MERIDIAN, *February 17, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

Your telegrams of yesterday received. Cotton matters at Mobile fully attended to long since. Thomas, with bulk of his army, has landed at Vicksburg, and moved out four miles east of there with pontoon train. Enemy concentrating at Pensacola. Think he will probably move simultaneously from Vicksburg, Pensacola, and Decatur.

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

General L. MCLAWS,
Charleston, S. C.:

Columbia was evacuated yesterday. Hampton's cavalry is still near the city. The future intentions of the enemy are not yet developed. Carry out my instructions to General Hardee as rapidly as practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

General MCLAWS,
Charleston, S. C.:

General Gorgas suggests that the navy hold the forts and the citizens the lines, that the enemy may be delayed as long as possible and concentration be effected. General Lee and myself approve his suggestion and recommend its adoption.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

Major-General MCLAWS,
Charleston, S. C.:

The Secretary of War telegraphed that the two trains belonging to the State of Georgia impressed for Government purposes be released and returned to the State agent, unless they are employed in moving troops or other Government stores less important than cotton, as the State of Georgia has cotton on the road.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. L. MCLAWS,
Charleston, S. C.:

Be careful in retiring to destroy all bridges and trestles between Branchville and Charleston and Charleston and the Santee, inclusive.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. L. MCLAWS,
Charleston, S. C.:

Movements of enemy indicate that the junction of our forces cannot take place south of Charlotte, N. C. You will, therefore, carry out the

instructions to that effect left with General Hardee, moving by rail to Cheraw all the infantry and artillery which can thus be transported. Your wagon train and surplus artillery should move as light as possible to the same point, whence they will move, properly guarded, with all the supplies they can carry to Charlotte, N. C. The troops should move from Cheraw to Charlotte with five days' rations and a full supply of ammunition. Not a moment should be lost in the execution of these orders.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 18, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding District of Georgia:

GENERAL: There are large numbers of officers and men in this city absent from their commands. They excuse themselves by saying they do not know where their commands are, and when informed, reply they cannot walk there. A camp of direction should be established at some suitable point for the concentration of these absentees, and there kept until they be sent to their proper commands. All such should be kept out of the city. Be good enough to call the attention of Brigadier-General Fry to this matter.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUSTA, GA., *February 18, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

GENERAL: In accordance with your verbal instruction, I will leave here on Wednesday next unless otherwise ordered before that time.

Respectfully,
D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 18, 1865.

Capt. William Stanley will proceed to inspect all the cavalry on the waters of the Ogeechee and Altamaha. He will report their strength, condition of men, horses and wagons, efficiency of the command, and especially of commanding officers, state of discipline, and in fine will make a complete and faithful exhibit of the military and moral status of the cavalry in the regions above designated. He will instruct the cavalry that it is not expected of them to lie idle in camp, but to be constantly engaged in harassing the enemy, protecting the country, and clearing it of disloyal men.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

DOKO, *February 18, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

GENERAL: As Sherman marches in so extended a manner it has occurred to me that we might concentrate on one of his corps and

destroy it. At present the Fifteenth Corps is on the Winnsborough road, the Seventeenth on the railroad, and the other two, I suppose, across the Broad River. The country between the two corps here is rough and inaccessible, so that if we could concentrate in front of the Seventeenth Corps we might defeat it before support could reach it. All the cavalry with the infantry could, I think, defeat one corps. I think that you might get some troops from Charleston, if they were sent by rail at once to Camden. The road to Camden, as you are aware, turns off from the Wilmington railroad seven miles beyond Kingsville. Now, if troops could come up to the junction of the Camden and Wilmington road, they could hold the crossings of the Wateree till you could get re-enforcements to them. The swamp is very wide and very difficult, even in the best weather, so that a small body of troops could check a much larger one. I could send some cavalry to aid if necessary. If Sherman comes this way you will be able to get some of your troops by Camden to the line of our march. If, on the contrary, he moves on Charleston the troops at the Wateree would be in the proper position. Cheatham, too, can now join us, if you send telling him to make forced marches. With a few thousand more men we can cripple Sherman greatly.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
On Crane Creek, Six Miles from Columbia,
February 18, 1865—1.20 p. m.

Capt. ALB. FERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have just learned from a source not thoroughly reliable that the enemy have moved up a force on the other side of the river. I shall know in a short time definitely about it from scouts sent over the river yesterday. In the meantime I have ordered General Allen to picket Broad River up as far as Little River and General Humes to picket it from Little River to Hughey's Ferry (General Humes crossed at Hughey's Ferry yesterday). It seems to me there is no object in burning the railroad bridge at Alston, as it would be no source of delay to the enemy and we shall need it after the enemy have passed on. I cannot see that the enemy can use that bridge for railroad purposes. They can put down pontoons quicker than they can floor the bridge to take over wagons and horses. Shall the bridge be burned? The enemy's pickets in my front to-night are about two miles from the State House, placed there about dark.

Respectfully, captain, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 18, 1865—7.25 p. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to forward a report from Captain Vason, just received. General Anderson is encamped between Nipper's and Cedar Creeks and Colonel Hagan near Frost's house, both

on this road. So soon as an answer is received to a communication forwarded to-night, asking if it would not be advisable to order my wagon train moved from where it is now, I think it would be better to send from this road the wagons that are with the brigades. The country between this and the Winnsborough road, being very broken, and there being only one or two roads by which the latter could be reached, I would respectfully ask if it would not be advisable, in view of these facts, to have Colonel Hagan to move his command back to-night or early in the morning. Situated as he is, there might be difficulty in his reaching the Winnsborough road, should the enemy advance rapidly to-morrow morning. The scout that captured the two prisoners of the Fourteenth Corps, U. S. Army, this afternoon, thought that this corps might intend moving toward Winnsborough from Freshly's Ferry. The prisoners were captured upward of a mile east of the Monticello road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
February 18, 1865. (Received 19th.)

General BRAGG,
Raleigh:

General Baker's scouts exaggerate enemy's force. Get what troops you can together and strike him in the most vulnerable point you can. Cut the railroad behind him and collect all the State troops.

R. E. LEE.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 18, 1865.*

General BRAGG:
(Care Governor Vance.)

Scouts just arrived report General Foster with very large force at New Berne. Two brigades recently arrived; one brigade on Thursday. Scouts think that enemy will move about middle of next week.

Respectfully,

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 18, 1865—6.50 p. m.*

General BRAGG:
(Care Governor Vance.)

Scouts report Foster in New Berne with large force and forty pieces artillery. Think he will move on Kinston to-morrow. Raiding party, 500; 1,000 with artillery moving on Greenville and Tarborough. One regiment negroes and 400 Irishmen to work on railroad; also a force of marines with torpedo-boats to come up the river. They have taken up torpedoes in river above New Berne to run boats as far up river as possible, I suppose.

Respectfully,

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General,

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

Governor MAGRATH,
Winnsborough, S. C.:

General Butler reports enemy advancing on Killian's Mill. I will probably be in Winnsborough to-morrow.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

Governor ISHAM G. HARRIS,
Care of Governor Magrath,
Winnsborough, S. C.:

Can you give any information of Cheatham's movements and the burning about Alston?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 18, 1865.

Maj. N. W. SMITH,
Chief Quartermaster, Field Transportation:

MAJOR: In reply to your communication of the 17th instant in relation to the wagon train between Mayfield and Midway, I have the honor to state that Maj. P. B. Lee, assistant inspector-general, was the officer selected to carry out the instructions of General Beauregard. In view of your request that the wagon train might be placed under the charge of some other quartermaster, and the recommendation of Maj. W. F. Ayer, chief quartermaster, Army of Tennessee, you will make the necessary arrangements with him for its transfer to the chief quartermaster of the army.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

Captain SHARP,
Assistant Quartermaster, Winnsborough, S. C.:

Major Trout has been ordered to send here 15,000 rations. He is at Chesterville and wants transportation. Please see to it at once. Trout wants an engine.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., *February 18, 1865.*

Major TROUT,
Chesterville, S. C.:

Have telegraphed to Captain Sharp, but communicate with him and obtain the necessary transportation for the 15,000 rations.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 19, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

Reports from South Carolina induce me to suggest that you go to General Beauregard's headquarters for personal conference and observation as soon as the circumstances in your front will permit.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

[FEBRUARY 19, 1865.—For Lee to Breckinridge, relating to operations in the Carolinas, see Part I, p. 1044.]

WINNSBOROUGH, S. C., *February 19, 1865—12.45 p. m.*
(Received 5 p. m.)

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

Four corps of enemy are reported advancing on this place from Columbia and Alston on Broad River, tearing up Charlotte railroad. This indicates his intention not to return by same route. He will probably be at Charlotte about the 24th, before my forces can concentrate there. He will doubtless move then on Greensborough, Danville, and Petersburg, or if short of supplies, on Raleigh and Weldon, where he will form a junction with Schofield.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[First indorsement.]

To the President, who is respectfully requested to return inclosures after reading them.

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

[Second indorsement.]

It is not possible from the dispatches to understand what is being done to concentrate forces, and the rapidity with which the enemy is expected to move indicates little effort to delay or obstruct his progress. If we knew what was being done in front, on flank, or in rear of the enemy where our forces are, and on what lines they are moving, some suggestion might be made.

J. D.

WHITE OAK, S. C., *February 19, 1865—10 p. m.*
(Received 8.30 p. m. 20th.)

General R. E. LEE:

After close examination, and exerting every means in my power, I find it impossible for the troops now in Charleston to form a junction with me this side of Greensborough. Believing it best, from information just received from Governor Vance and General Bragg, to transport the troops by rail to that point, I have directed General McLaws to move them by rail as rapidly as possible. I am also of the opinion that Cheatham, at Newberry this morning with 2,000 men, and Stewart, eighteen hours behind him, with 1,200 men, cannot form a junction with me except by moving across via Statesburg and Manchester, and thence by rail to Greensborough. This movement will require some days, owing to difficulties of crossing the Broad and Wateree Rivers.

The enemy has advanced to-day to near Winnsborough in force, and is still moving along the railroad, keeping between this place and Broad River, thus cutting off Cheatham and Stewart.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 19, 1865.

Col. G. W. RAINS, *Commanding Arsenal:*

COLONEL: General Beauregard desires 1,000,000 rounds of small-arms ammunition and 2,500 of Napoleon sent to him near Columbia. Major Ayer, chief quartermaster, will furnish the wagons. An escort will leave here to-morrow and will guard the train.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MACON, GA., *February 19, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

Arrived here last evening. Lee's corps wagon trains, in advance of the others, left Columbus yesterday by dirt road. I will order them to hasten through to Augusta. Furloughed troops still passing.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WINNSBOROUGH, S. C., *February 19, 1865—10.45 a. m.*

Capt. H. A. RAMSAY,
Chief Engineer, &c., Charlotte, N. C.:

I believe Cherryville less exposed than any place within reach of enemy's line of march, which will probably be Charlotte and Greensborough, N. C.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

MONK'S CORNER,
February 19, 1865.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Charleston was successfully evacuated on the night of the 17th and morning of the 18th, and the troops are here marching to form a junction with General Beauregard.

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

WHITE OAK, *February 19, 1865.*

General L. McLAWS, *Charleston, S. C.:*

Orders for movement to Cheraw countermanded. Send infantry with due proportion of artillery by rail to Greensborough, N. C., as rapidly as possible. Call upon General Bragg and Governor Vance for all the assistance in their power. Not a moment must be lost in executing this order. Leave your cavalry to protect country north of Santee River.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
White Oak, 8 Miles north of Winnsborough, S. C., February 19, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. A. P. STEWART and
Maj. Gen. B. F. CHEATHAM,
Commanding Corps:

GENERALS: General Beauregard directs that your two corps be concentrated as soon as possible, and, as it is now out of your power to form a junction with the troops on this side of Broad River, he directs that the corps, combined with the cavalry now with them, move as rapidly as possible by the best routes to Statesburg or Manchester, S. C., and thence by rail, via Florence, S. C., and Wilmington, to Greensborough, N. C. The commanding general would suggest that if the enemy has left Columbia, S. C., the corps move via that point, crossing the Wateree at Garner's or Starr's Ferry. Details should be sent forward to collect boats at the proper points of crossing and provisions along the line of march. Your artillery and wagon trains should also go by rail. You will not fail to communicate with these headquarters by telegraph immediately upon your arrival at the first telegraph station.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

Received February 21, 1865, 8 p. m., at Mrs. Jones', one mile from Jones' Ferry, on Ennoree River, Newberry District, S. C.
JAS. D. PORTER, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WINNSBOROUGH, S. C., *February 19, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Doko or Ridgeway:

Have just arrived. Will be here for several hours. Have you any report from Wheeler or Butler?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

WINNSBOROUGH, S. C., *February 19, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Doko or Ridgeway, S. C.:

Enemy are reported by General Humes at 10.30 a. m. to be ten miles from this place advancing. Be careful of your trains and Wheeler's. Communicate with General Wheeler.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

WINNSBOROUGH, S. C., *February 19, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Doko or Ridgeway, S. C.:

As the intentions of the enemy are better developed from the fact that he is tearing up the railroad behind him, the destruction of cotton is deemed unnecessary.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

WINNSBOROUGH, S. C., *February 19, 1865—1 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Doko or Ridgeway, S. C.:

Colonel Ashby reports enemy at 10.45 a. m. to be advancing in heavy force five miles below Bell's Mills, on the Columbia and Winnsborough road. Please communicate with General Wheeler.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WINNSBOROUGH, S. C., *February 19, 1865—1.15 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Doko or Ridgeway, S. C.:

I am just leaving here. You had better push on before communication is cut off. I shall stop at White Oak, with Stevenson's command.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
White Oak, S. C., February 19, 1865—4.15 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. W. HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs me to inform you that the trains and infantry will turn off from this place, taking the road via Hazelwood and Rich Hill to Landsford, on the Catawba; thence they will move along the east bank of the Catawba to Belair; thence to Charlotte. He desires your cavalry to conform its movements accordingly, protecting the flanks and rear of the column. Thirty thousand rations are still at Chesterville; if not needed by you, let the order be given for their removal. Should the report of the advance of the enemy in this direction be confirmed, the trains and troops will leave here about daylight in the morning.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WHITE OAK, *February 19, 1865—11.45 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Winnsborough, S. C.:

Doctor Cameron, of Reynolds' brigade, and Private Cameron, of Company B, Fourth South Carolina Cavalry, report a brigade of the enemy's cavalry one mile and a quarter from Youngsville, on the Little River road, moving on Youngsville. General Beauregard directs me to inform you of it, and desires proper steps be taken to arrest their progress and destroy them, if possible.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
Monticello Road, February 19, 1865—9.25 a. m.

First Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that I am now moving with my command. Will go to the right of this road and get in front of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—The road I shall travel passes by Cedar Creek Post-Office and Brown's Post-Office.

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
Monticello Road, February 19, 1865—9.50 a. m.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that scouts report the enemy (infantry) moving on a road which turns off from the Monticello road fifteen miles from Columbia and passes by Cedar Creek Post-Office and Brown's Post-Office, leading to Winnsborough. I will, therefore, take another road leading to the Winnsborough road. I will withdraw the regiment left behind on the Monticello road, in view of the fact that the enemy are moving toward Winnsborough.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 19, 1865—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that I started this morning on a road turning out of the Columbia and Monticello road, fifteen miles from Columbia, and moving by Cedar Creek Post-Office and Brown's Post-Office, but my scouts having reported the enemy two miles ahead of me on that road I have turned across, and struck the Winnsborough and Columbia road, some fourteen or fifteen miles from Columbia (near Nelson's house). I shall move up on this road and ascertain with certainty whether the enemy is moving toward Winnsborough or Monticello, and get in front of him as directed in orders from General Wheeler last night. In obedience to instructions to withdraw the regiment left on the Columbia road in case the enemy should move toward Winnsborough, I have directed Colonel Hagan to withdraw it. There will consequently be nothing left on that road. The enemy, however, at last accounts had not advanced from Columbia on that road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

RALEIGH, *February 19, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:

General Baker reports a strong raid moving on Weldon railroad at Rocky Mount and continued preparations for the move on Goldsborough and this place. Little or no assistance can be had from the State. Exemptions and reorganization under late law have disbanded the State force, and they will not be ready for some time. I go to Goldsborough to-night.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WHITE OAK, S. C., *February 19, 1865.*

General BRAGG, *Wilmington, N. C.:*

Have ordered McLaws to move as rapidly as possible by rail to Greensborough, N. C. Please communicate with him fully and aid him all in your power. Am obliged to you for your information.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

FLORENCE, *February 19, 1865.*

General BRAGG:

I am at this place en route for Wilmington with my command (about 400 men and officers) to be tendered you for battery service. Is Wilmington still intact? Please answer immediately to this place and to Marion Court-House.

J. R. TUCKER,
Flag Officer, C. S. Navy.

[Answer.]

Come on with your force.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 19, 1865.*
(Received 12.15 p. m.)

General BRAGG, *Goldsborough:*

General Hoke this morning established his force on line with obstructions. General Hagood at Town Creek. Enemy continue active.

FRANK PARKER,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
February 19, 1865.

General HOKE, *Wilmington:*

Can you ascertain Schofield's strength?

R. E. LEE.

RALEIGH, *February 19, 1865.*

General HOKE:

I shall leave for Goldsborough to-night. Advise me there if anything important. We can look for no assistance. Baker seems to think the raid now moving is formidable.

B. BRAGG.

BATTERY LEE,
February 19, 1865.

Major PARKER:

A number of enemy's boats advanced up the river; fourteen in sight of Battery Campbell. Opened upon them from Campbell only with Parrott and 32-pounder guns. After a few rounds from our battery boats retired

P. C. GAILLARD,
Colonel, Commanding.

UPPER TOWN CREEK BRIDGE,
February 19, 1865—9.45 a. m.

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Inform General Hoke that my column is crossing Town Creek bridge and going into position. Colonel Lipscomb just heard from on road to upper bridge. We have brought off everything for field service, field batteries, &c. Loss slight. Enemy charged my picket-line in heavy skirmish force just as we were about withdrawing it a little before day, and had to retire fighting. The bridges of the canal were, however, burned and the sluices of Orton Pond cut. No pursuit beyond. Ask General Hoke for orders for me. This place needs much work if it is to be held for any length of time.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 20, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Winnsborough, S. C.:

The Secretary of War directs that you give orders to the local commanders for the removal of all supplies on Sherman's route, and that if they cannot be removed they be destroyed as soon as they become liable to capture.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

(Letter of same purport to Generals Holmes and Bragg, and commandants of posts at Yorkville and Chester, S. C., and Charlotte, Salisbury, and Greensborough, N. C.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 42. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, February 20, 1865.

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XXIII. Capt. J. C. Abrams, assistant commissary of subsistence, will proceed without delay to Charlotte, N. C., for the purpose of effecting the rapid removal to Virginia of the stores now accumulated at that point, and to make such arrangements as may be necessary for the collection of supplies. He will thence proceed to Greensborough, Raleigh, Weldon, Goldsborough, and Wilmington, and confer with the chief commissary and subordinate officers at the respective points, urge

the utmost activity in the collection and shipment of stores to Virginia, and impress upon all the necessity for prompt contributions to meet the wants of the troops dependent on the State of North Carolina.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WHITE OAK, *February 20, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE, *Richmond, Va.:*

There are so many roads in this section of country on which enemy can move toward Charlotte it is impossible with my small force of infantry to remove or destroy all supplies. Your instructions will, however, be carried out as far as practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHESTERVILLE, *February 20, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE, *Richmond, Va.:*

General McLaws reports from Monk's Corner that Charleston was successfully evacuated on the night of the 17th instant. Enemy reported by General Wheeler to be advancing on this place, being six miles north of Monticello.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 20, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,
Chief of Engineer Bureau:

GENERAL: You will proceed with all dispatch to the headquarters of General Beauregard, with whom you will advise as to the movement of his forces, the roads most available to effect the earliest possible junction of his troops, which should be effected before a battle with the enemy is risked. You will also advise as to the various and most efficient means of delaying the enemy's march by obstructions and otherwise. You will keep the general advised as to the subjects discussed, movements of the troops, and all other matters of interest. You will show this letter to General Beauregard and convey to him the views this day expressed to you on the subject of the operations with which he is charged.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

JEFF'N DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 20, 1865.

Captain BUCHANAN, *Engineers:*

CAPTAIN: General Beauregard directs that you will proceed at once to the point on the Savannah River, via Washington, Ga., where the road from Washington to Abbeville, S. C., crosses. A pontoon bridge has been ordered to be constructed at that or some eligible point near by. You will confer with the engineer in charge of the work and give

him such aid as you can. Neither flooring nor sleepers are coming on with the pontoon train. See that they are promptly and expeditiously made for sixty boats. After this duty shall have been discharged you will proceed without delay to make a thorough examination of the country and roads between Washington and Abbeville. You will call on the quartermaster at Washington for a horse and equipments. Should it be necessary he is authorized to impress them for your use temporarily. Should it be necessary to do so they will be first valued and certificate of same, setting forth all the facts, given to the owner.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
February 20, 1865.

General P. M. B. YOUNG,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: An order has been received from General Beauregard requiring you to cover trains passing from this point to Newberry Court-House. Under this order you cannot cross the Congaree, but I think you may sweep up toward Columbia and then follow up the Saluda, covering the roads leading into the road between Augusta and McNary's Ferry. I regret the order, as I had hoped great things from your dash and enterprise, but it is my duty to apprise you of it. Keep me constantly apprised of your position, as well as of the movements of the Yankees.

Respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

RALEIGH, *February 20, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE, *Richmond, Va.:*

Your dispatches received. I will give General Bragg all the assistance in my power. Have called out every man liable to duty in the State. I can't destroy provisions without a force of cavalry.

Z. B. VANCE.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, Near White Oak, S. C., February 20, 1865.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: Col. D. H. Hamilton, the bearer of this, has been directed to proceed to Raleigh, Wilmington, and Florence to communicate to yourself, Governor Vance, and Major-General McLaws my views upon the subject-matter of my telegram of the 19th instant. He will also inform you of the movements of Cheatham and Stewart, and I would respectfully request that you render him every assistance, that the troops under these officers may move promptly to the same point that the troops under Major-General McLaws have been ordered.

Respectfully and truly, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

CHESTERVILLE, *February 20, 1865.*

General HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

Governor Vance and General Bragg are confident of being able to put your whole command at point designated in much shorter time than by dirt road. Reserve wagons and artillery might go to Cheraw by rail and thence by common road to Raleigh. Your sick had better be sent to Cheraw.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

KINGSTREE, *February 20, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

I am ordered by General Beauregard to Greensborough, N. C., via Wilmington. He directs me to call upon you for assistance and information. Will it be practicable for ten days to go by Wilmington, and what are the difficulties in passing Cape Fear River? Answer at once.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

KINGSTREE, S. C., *February 20, 1865.*
(Received 2.15 a. m. 21st.)

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Wilmington:

General Hoke states: "Assisted by a few* brigades from you we may succeed in forcing the passage of your forces by this point." If you need any assistance from me I will send you troops as soon as I can get trains. Answer.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Charlotte, February 20, 1865.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

I am shipping stores from this post as fast as I can get the transportation for them. Unless the enemy is checked much stores will be lost at this post. The prisoners at Salisbury should be marched at once to Greensborough. The Federal officers at this post I am sending to Greensborough on the passenger trains, stopping all private travel.

W. J. HOKE,
Colonel, Commanding.

WHITE OAK, *February 20, 1865.*

Col. W. J. HOKE,
Charlotte, N. C.:

Let the orders of the Secretary of War be obeyed.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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*As sent by Hoke to Hardee it reads "two brigades"—see p. 1233.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 20, 1865.

Brigadier-General FRY,
Commanding, &c., Augusta:

GENERAL: A pontoon bridge has been ordered to be built over the Savannah River between Washington, Ga., and Abbeville, S. C. A guard is necessary at that point to protect it and also to arrest stragglers and deserters from the armies in South Carolina and Virginia. General Beauregard desires that you will relieve from duty the guard and officers ordered to report to you a few days since and direct them to proceed by the best practicable route to that point for the purpose above indicated. They should move with three days' cooked rations. The guard can in future be subsisted from Washington or Abbeville.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, &c.,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WHITE OAK, *February 20, 1865.*

Maj. R. M. CARY, *Charlotte, N. C.:*

General Beauregard recommends that the ordnance stores be removed from Charlotte as soon as possible. Major Trezevant left Ridgeville [Ridgeway] for Charlotte on 18th. He can give you more explicit information as to the ordnance shipped from Columbia. Every possible assistance was rendered.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WHITE OAK, *February 20, 1865.*

General R. S. RIPLEY, *Charlotte, N. C.:*

Await orders in Charlotte.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Near White Oak, S. C., February 20, 1865.

Maj. Gen. C. L. STEVENSON,
Commanding Lee's Corps:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs that you move with your command by the shortest and best route to Landsford ford, thence to Charlotte, via Belair and Pleasant Valley. You will await further orders at Charlotte. Unless otherwise pressed you will move at the rate of about twenty miles a day. He will move along the railroad, so as to be in telegraphic communication with General Hampton and the War Department. He will probably pass the night at Chesterville, and to-morrow night at or about the railroad bridge on the Catawba. General Hampton has been instructed to give orders to his trains whether to accompany yours or remain under his protection.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. R. CHISOLM,
Aide-de-Camp.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 20, 1865—11 a. m.*

Maj. F. S. PARKER:

I shall be on the evening train. An agent is on his way from Richmond for the delivery at Fort Fisher of all prisoners. The raid on Tarborough has returned.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 20, 1865.*
(Received 1.30 21st.)

General BRAGG, *Magnolia:*

General Hoke holds his line confidently. General Hagood has transferred his force to east bank; his cavalry left across the Brunswick.

FRANK PARKER.

WILMINGTON, *February 20, 1865.*
(Received 6.10 p. m.)

General BRAGG, *Magnolia:*

I hear they refuse to receive the prisoners now, and Hoke orders them to Goldsborough. They cannot all be moved there before the city falls. Please direct them to be unloaded at Burgaw and return for more. The Yankees are in three miles of the town and shelling furiously.

S. L. FREMONT,
Engineer Wilmington and Weldon Railroad.

WILMINGTON, *February 20, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg:

Schofield has 15,000 men. We will dispute every point.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 20, 1865.*
(Received 10 o'clock.)

General R. E. LEE:

General Baker reports raid upon railroad and movements from New Berne. I cannot help him. Enemy in strong force against me. Battery Anderson was evacuated on the 19th instant.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 20, 1865—11 p. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Kingstree:

Assisted by two brigades from you, we may succeed in forcing the passage of your force by this point.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 20, 1865—6.30 p. m.*

General HOKE:

Will leave in an hour or two. Telegraph me at Magnolia your condition this evening.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, February 20, 1865—10 30 p. m.

General BRAGG, *Magnolia:*

All quiet now.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

FORKS ROAD, *February 20, 1865.*

Major PARKER:

I telegraphed Commodore Pinckney asking him to organize all the naval forces in his department and those from Charleston into one command under his charge, and assign them to duty at the batteries at the obstructions, taking the surplus as an infantry support. It is desirable to have every man who can bear arms, and I hope the commodore will do it. Colonel Gaillard can be ordered on other duty, and his troops assigned to duty on the lines. Keep me advised of Hagood's movements. See him about it. I have had no answer.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

Major PARKER:

An answer has been sent, but not till this had been written. I started to the office, office being some distance from the general.

Respectfully,

RYAN.

FORKS ROAD, *February 20, 1865.*

Major PARKER:

Have Hedrick's brigade ready to move at once. Major Cross is coming for them. Have all stragglers collected and sent out to their commands.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

CROSS-ROADS, *February 20, 1865.*

Maj. FRANK PARKER:

The stores referred to for Fayetteville had better be sent. I do not want the absence of the steamer to interfere with General Hébert's ferry arrangement.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

FORKS ROAD, *February 20, 1865—8.15 p. m.*

Major PARKER:

General Hoke is now strengthening his left flank, and I fear dispatches would not reach him at present. As soon as he returns he

intends to send me to Wilmington. Tell Major Cameron to keep river transportation for General Hagood until he hears from General Hoke.

J. L. CROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORKS ROAD, *February 20, 1865—8.15 p. m.*

Major PARKER

Some sharpshooting on the lines. The general expects to hold this position.

J. L. CROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 20, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE:

The advance of General Hagood's wagon train is now crossing the river at this point.

FRANK PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

UPPER TOWN CREEK, *February 20, 1865.*

Colonel ANDERSON:

Please send me the largest and most complete military map you have of the country north of this point. Send by courier as soon as possible. I would like, also, guides to the country north of the pontoon bridge. In case I am prevented from making a junction with General Hoke at Wilmington, I will have to cross the Cape Fear River higher up. Indicate fords or ferries. Enemy just opened on me with artillery.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 20, 1865.

Respectfully referred to the chief of engineers to meet the requirements of General Hagood.

Please let me know what action is proposed, that I may notify General Hagood by telegraph.

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 20, 1865.*

Brigadier-General HAGOOD:

Keep me advised of enemy's progress, especially in Lipscomb's front. Railroad management depends upon this.

FRANK PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

UPPER TOWN CREEK BRIDGE, *February 20, 1865.*

Colonel ANDERSON:

Inform General Hoke that the enemy are landing at Cowan's house, north of Town Creek. It makes it necessary for me to prepare to leave this line of the creek. I will send my baggage at once across the

pontoon bridge at Wilmington. See that it is promptly got across to Wilmington and make arrangements at once to get my command over when I come. Reply at once. If the arrangements are ample I may have to evacuate before night; and, if so, will have to do so fighting with the enemy close upon me. Hurry the guides and maps for the event of my having to go higher up.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

TOWN CREEK BRIDGE, *February 20, 1865.*

Major PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

I am now evacuating. Enemy are turning my flank and are pushing me too strong. Am obliged to do so.

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

FEBRUARY 20, 1865—8.30 p. m.

Colonel ANDERSON:

My advance guard is passing the pontoon. Where are we to bivouac on the Wilmington side?

JOHNSON HAGOOD,
Brigadier-General.

Shall I destroy railroad bridge? If not otherwise ordered, shall.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 20, 1865.*
(Received 11 o'clock.)

General R. E. LEE, *Headquarters:*

The raiding party toward Tarborough, finding a force in their front, returned toward New Berne after destroying a small amount of stores at Greenville. Nothing further from New Berne to-day.

Respectfully,

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 20, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE:

The raid returned toward New Berne after destroying the stores at Greenville. Nothing further from New Berne to-day.

Respectfully,

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General.

WHITE OAK, *February 20, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Winnsborough, S. C.:

If retrograde movement be confirmed Butler's proposed movement is approved.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

WHITE OAK, *February 20, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON, or
General WHEELER,
Winnsborough, S. C.:

Colonel Dibrell, with his regiment, is here awaiting your orders, in consequence of the report of last night being groundless. The enemy is reported to be moving from Monticello to Chesterville. Please answer.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WHITE OAK, *February 20, 1865—10 a. m.*

General HAMPTON,
Winnsborough, S. C.:

Stevenson moves this morning, via Landsford, Belair, and Pleasant Valley, to Charlotte, where he will await further orders, carrying his own trains. I shall move along the railroad that I may be in telegraphic communication with yourself and the Department. You will now have to guard your own trains, unless you prefer sending them on with General Stevenson's.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHESTERVILLE, S. C., *February 20, 1865—11.15 p. m.*

Lieut. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Black Stocks, S. C.:

Persons arriving from direction of Monticello this afternoon report none of our cavalry guarding that approach. I will leave here in the morning for railroad bridge.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 21, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

By mail you will receive a copy of telegram from General Beauregard of a startling character.* Yesterday I sent General Gilmer to advise with General Beauregard. I hope you have given your views as to the mode of concentrating his divided forces; also as to the probable plan of enemy.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

[FEBRUARY 21, 1865.—For Breckinridge to Lee, relative to the collection of troops to resist Sherman's advance, see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 1245.]

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* See Beauregard to Davis, p. 1238.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., February 21, 1865.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, &c.:

An operator of the telegraph line, Wilmington, says:

Enemy's iron-clads shelling our last remaining battery, three miles from city, still pressing Hagood back. Hoke holds his position.

This may have an important bearing upon the movement of troops in South Carolina, and their transfer by Wilmington. Give the necessary information. General Beauregard's last telegram is from Chester. Enemy bearing upon that place, and only six miles north of Monticello.

J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

CHESTERVILLE, *February 21, 1865.*
(Received 12 noon.)

President JEFFERSON DAVIS,
Richmond, Va.:

Should enemy advance into North Carolina toward Charlotte and Salisbury, as is now almost certain, I earnestly urge a concentration in time of at least 35,000 infantry and artillery at latter point, if possible, to give him battle there, and crush him, then to concentrate all forces against Grant, and then to march on Washington to dictate a peace. Hardee and myself can collect about 15,000, exclusive of Cheatham and Stewart, not likely to reach in time. If Lee and Bragg could furnish 20,000 more the fate of the Confederacy would be secure.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHESTERVILLE, S. C., *February 21, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE, *Richmond, Va.:*

At request of Governor Magrath and the commanding officer of State militia (about 500 strong), I have allowed those forces to move east of Catawba River for protection of that portion of the State. They were unwilling to cross into North Carolina. This reduces my infantry to about 2,500 men.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

ROCK HILL, S. C., *February 21, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE, *Richmond, Va.:*

Your dispatch received. My course as to the South Carolina militia was based on the report of Governor Magrath that they would not* cross the State line, and of General Garlington, that his troops (men between the ages of fifty and sixty, and boys under seventeen) were completely exhausted, and unable to continue the march. They remain still in the field, however, under that officer. Please inform me what other course should have been adopted.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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* See Beauregard to Hampton, 22d, p. 1256.

CHESTERVILLE, *February 21, 1865.*

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Richmond, Va.:

Dispatch of 20th received. Order for removal of supplies on Sherman's route has been given to Charlotte and will be extended in rear, as Sherman's line of march is determined.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 43. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, February 21, 1865.*

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IX. The ten companies of North Carolina Reserves, commanded by Col. Almond A. McKoy, will constitute a regiment to be designated the Eighth Regiment North Carolina Reserves.

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XIII. Brig. Gen. G. J. Rains, chief of torpedo service, will report in person and without delay to Maj. Gen. J. F. Gilmer, at the headquarters of Gen. G. T. Beauregard, commanding, &c., taking with him a supply of sensitive tubes and such other articles as may be necessary in subterra and subaqueous operations. He will also take with him some competent person as an assistant.

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XXIV. Brig. Gen. F. A. Shoup, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to the command of the artillery serving under Lieut. Gen. W. J. Hardee, and will report accordingly.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHESTERVILLE, *February 21, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. A. R. LAWTON,
Quartermaster-General, Richmond, Va.:

As requested by you, all rolling-stock that could be spared from south and east of Columbia was brought out on this line. It must evidently be destroyed unless the gauge of the road from Charlotte to Danville be widened. Please give the necessary orders forthwith.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHESTERVILLE, *February 21, 1865.*

Col. W. J. HOKE,
Charlotte, N. C.:

Double your guards and patrol streets to prevent pillaging. Arrest and confine all officers and men absent from their commands without proper papers. If resistance is offered resort to harshest measures to put it down.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 21, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. W. LORING:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs that you proceed with the troops under your orders to-day to join the force now operating north of the Saluda River, near Newberry. You will move by way of Edgefield Court-House, and cross the river, if practicable, at Lorick's Ferry. If Storrs' battalion should not be fully equipped, you will equip one battery by transfer of horses, &c., leaving the others here to be fitted up. No other wagons than those furnished you can be had.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, February 21, 1865—11.45 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. A. P. STEWART, *Commanding Corps, &c.:*

GENERAL: The following, just received, is communicated for your information. You will conduct your future movements in accordance with the directions therein expressed.*

By command of General Beauregard:

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Major-General Cheatham.)

ROCK HILL, *February 21, 1865.*

Major CHISMAN, *Greensborough, N. C.:*

If there be no commandant of post at Greensborough assume command. Arrest all stragglers and absentees from this army and return them. If there be a commandant of the post, transfer this order to him.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ROCK HILL, *February 21, 1865.*

COMMANDANT OF POST AT SALISBURY, N. C.:

Arrest all stragglers and absentees from this army not provided with proper authority, and return them under guard. Inspect railroad cars, as many go by rail.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 21, 1865.*

Governor Z. B. VANCE, *Raleigh, N. C.:*

I thank you for your patriotic proclamation,† and trust you may promptly bring a large auxiliary force into the field. Time is all important to a success which will revive confidence.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

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* See Otey to Brent, 17th, p. 1209.

† See p. 1187.

ROCK HILL, S. C., *February 21, 1865—8 a. m.*

Governor Z. B. VANCE,
Raleigh, N. C.:

We will endeavor to check enemy as far south as possible. Greensborough is only a temporary point of concentration. Enemy from Charlotte may move on Greensborough, Raleigh, or Wilmington.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865.*

General S. COOPER,
Richmond, Va.:

I find all our troops on this side Cape Fear. The enemy in force on the west, and our communications south cut. We are greatly outnumbered. General Schofield in command with two corps. He refuses to receive prisoners and they are being sent north.

B. BRAGG,
General.

Respectfully submitted to the Hon. Secretary of War.

JOHN W. RIELY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy sent to the President.)

RICHMOND, *February 21, 1865.*

General BRAGG,
Wilmington:

General Beauregard should be kept informed of the state of things at Wilmington, and whether troops can pass from South Carolina via Wilmington to defend the interior.

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Secretary of War.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865.*
(Received 11 a. m.)

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg:

I find on arrival that our forces are driven from the west bank of Cape Fear. The enemy's force is two corps under Schofield.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 21, 1865. (Via Richmond.)

General BRAGG:

Destroy all cotton, tobacco, and naval stores that would otherwise fall into the hands of the enemy, in accordance with the law published in General Orders, No. 4, current series, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
February 21, 1865.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

Is McLaws within reach to aid in repulse of enemy? If not, notify him and Beauregard that he may take another route.

R. E. LEE.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865—10.45 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg:

Holding one corps in Hoke's front, the enemy has thrown another to the west of the Cape Fear, which is now opposite the town. This compels me to cross the Northeast River or they will be in my rear to-morrow. Our small forces renders it impossible to make any serious stand. We are greatly embarrassed by prisoners, the enemy refusing to receive them or entertain any proposition. General Orders, No. 4, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, already complied with.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Winnsborough, S. C.:

On my arrival I find my forces driven from west side Cape Fear and the railroad in possession of enemy. Have notified General Hardee. Two corps, Schofield and Terry, are opposed to Hoke's division.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Kingstree:

We have retired to east of Cape Fear, and the Manchester road is cut. You had better follow your original plan, as the movement this way is no longer practicable.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 15. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 21, 1865.

I. General Braxton Bragg, having returned, resumes command of the department.

II. Maj. Gen. R. F. Hoke is assigned to the command of the Third Military District.

III. The general court-martial convened in Special Orders, No. 23, headquarters Department of North Carolina, is dissolved, and the members will report for duty with their respective commands.

IV. The following officers will report to Maj. Gen. R. F. Hoke, commanding Third Military District: Col. G. A. Cunningham, Provisional Army, C. S; Maj. T. B. Venable, assistant adjutant-general; Maj. A. Vanderhorst, assistant adjutant-general.

V. Col. S. D. Thruston, Third Regiment North Carolina Volunteers, will assume control of the post at Company's Shops, North Carolina Railroad, and there organize such local forces as he may find.

By order:

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WHITEVILLE, *February 21, 1865.*

General R. F. HOKE:

I have seen the superintendent of this road, Captain Drane, who states that events have occurred since your telegram of the 19th, which, in his opinion, precludes the arrival of my train. Please answer immediately at this point if it is proper for me to come on.

J. R. TUCKER,
Flag Officer.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865.*

Capt. J. R. TUCKER,
Whiteville:

You should remain at Whiteville to check any advance of the enemy if possible, and fall back before him for the protection of the Fayetteville arsenal. Send all stores back.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WHITEVILLE, *February 21, 1865.*

General BRAGG:

Telegram received. I have 350 sailors unused to marching. No artillery or transportation for stores or baggage. Have a train here on which I propose to move to Cheraw, and thence to Charlotte. All store trains are going back. I do not think the small force can check enemy, and propose leaving in any direction you think best after sending my sick trains. Please answer immediately. I would suggest the Cheraw route for the sake of transportation for baggage.

J. R. TUCKER,
Flag Officer, Commanding.

FORKS ROAD, *February 21, 1865.*

Major PARKER:

With Hardee's troops at once I feel sure we can hold the place and get them by Wilmington. Will answer fully when I see Major Cross, who I suppose is on the way, from your dispatch.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS HOKE'S DIVISION,
February 21, 1865.

Major PARKER:

You must inform General Hardee in my name the true state of affairs. Be careful not to allow the dispatch to fall into the hands of the enemy.

If you have not informed General Bragg, do so. Tell General Hagood to give Colonel Jackson any assistance he may want in carrying out his orders.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE:

By one of boats left uninjured the enemy have made a lodgment in small force on Eagle Island, and will no doubt move soon upon the town. Hold your command ready.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE:

General Bragg directs that all of your transportation not needed for current use be transferred to the north bank Northeast River. A depot is being established there.

FRANK PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 21, 1865.

OFFICER COMMANDING DETACHMENT OF HAGOOD'S COMMAND:

SIR: Major-General Hoke directs that you will immediately dispose of your force on the causeway leading from the pontoon crossing to the city, so as to check any advance of the enemy if attempted, and give us warning of his approach. A picket should be thrown out on the railroad for same purpose.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, February 21, 1865.

Col. GEORGE JACKSON,
Commanding Post:

COLONEL: Major-General Hoke telegraphs me this morning that he wishes all stragglers collected and sent out to their commands. You will please take prompt steps to execute this order as far as possible.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. L. S. BAKER,
Goldsborough:

Enemy had driven our forces across the river when I arrived, and are now opposite to us in small force. Mrs. B will leave this evening; see her on to Raleigh.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. L. S. BAKER,
Goldsborough:

The enemy's force and positions are such on my arrival as to compel the evacuation of this place to-night. Continue to send trains.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *February 21, 1865.*

Maj. ROBERT STRANGE,
Fayetteville:

I find on arrival the enemy has driven us from west bank of Cape Fear. This uncovers the arsenal. Commanding officer should send off his most valuable stores, especially ammunition for small-arms. He should impress wagons and send to nearest railroad depot.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

CHESTER, *February 21, 1865.*

General WADE HAMPTON,
Black Stocks:

We have about 500 sacks corn and 15,000 rations for the men here. Shall I leave it for you? Your boxes from Columbia are here still.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHESTERVILLE, S. C., *February 21, 1865—7.15 a. m.*

General WADE HAMPTON,
Black Stocks, S. C.:

To give Stevenson time to reach Charlotte, you must guard with Wheeler the direct roads to that point from enemy's present position.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHESTERVILLE, S. C., *February 21, 1865—7.45 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Black Stocks, S. C.:

Your communication of 8.45 p. m. yesterday has just reached me. I approve of your plan for Butler to operate on rear and flanks of enemy. Charlotte, or along railroad to Salisbury, will be good point of concentration.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHESTER, *February 21, 1865—8 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Black Stocks, S. C.:

I will await you.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

ROCK HILL, *February 21, 1865.*

General HAMPTON,
Chesterville, S. C.:

State Cadets moved with General Garlington across the Catawba. Governor Magrath stated they cannot cross State line.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

ROCK HILL, S. C., *February 21, 1865.*

General WADE HAMPTON,
Chesterville, S. C.:

Arrived a few moments ago. The general desires you to report to-day's operations and movements of enemy.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHESTER, *February 21, 1865*

General BEAUREGARD:

No movement reported on Monticello road. Enemy did not occupy Winnsborough till to-day. Wheeler reports force this evening two miles west Youngsville. All quiet here.

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 22, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Chester, S. C.:

Your telegram of yesterday received, and a copy of it sent to General Lee. Your request for large re-enforcements from the Army of Virginia will best be judged of by General Lee. I am sorry to see that you do not expect a junction to be made by Stewart and Cheatham in time for the pressing emergency. I had hoped that by moving on the left of the enemy, if he were obstructed in his advance, they would reach you before any junction could be made by Sherman with Schofield or Grant. The position of the enemy near Wilmington endangers the continued use of the railroads on the east of your line of retreat.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

[FEBRUARY 22, 1865.—For Lee to Breckinridge, relative to resisting Sherman's advance, see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 1247.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., February 22, 1865.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, &c.:

The railroad between Salisbury and Goldsborough necessary for supply. Transportation [of] prisoners between these points must be delayed or marched through the country. For marching, strong guards of mounted men wanted. Can you give directions or make suggestions on the subject. Write to you to-day concerning this.

J. A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 22, 1865. (Received 9.10 a. m.)

Hon. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War:

From dispatch of General Bragg of 21st, conclude he has abandoned Cape Fear River. Says he is embarrassed by prisoners.

Enemy refuses to receive or entertain propositions. I expect no change will be made by General Grant. It is his policy to delay. Have directed prisoners to be sent to Richmond by rail or highway, as most practicable. If wrong, correct it.

R. E. LEE.

RICHMOND, *February 22, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:
(Care Major Echols.)

The Secretary of War directs that you report by telegram to General R. E. Lee, Petersburg, Va., for orders.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

Major Echols will forward this dispatch by express courier to General Johnston. He was at Lincolnton, N. C., the 20th instant.

RICHMOND, *February 22, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

A dispatch has been sent to-day to General Johnston, care of the quartermaster, Charlotte, N. C., directing him to report by telegram to you for orders. The quartermaster is ordered to forward it by express courier. General Johnston was at Lincolnton, N. C., the 20th instant.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 22, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

Assume command of the Army of Tennessee and all troops in Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. Assign General Beauregard to duty under you, as you may select. Concentrate all available forces and drive back Sherman.

R. E. LEE.

LINCOLNTON, N. C., *February 22, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:

It is too late to expect me to concentrate troops capable of driving back Sherman. The remnant of the Army of Tennessee is much divided. So are other troops. I will get information from General Beauregard as soon as practicable. Is any discretion allowed me? I have no staff.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

ROCK HILL, *February 22, 1865—9.30 a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

Lieutenant-General Hampton reports from Chester last night that the enemy occupied Winnsborough yesterday. His advance two miles west of Youngsville. General Stevenson crossed the Catawba at Landsford yesterday on the way to Charlotte.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

ROCK HILL, *February 22, 1865—11 a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

The Catawba River from Landsford to the railroad bridge offering no defensive line for a small force General Stevenson is retiring with the trains to Charlotte.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 22, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

I have directed General J. E. Johnston to assume command of southern army and to assign you to duty with him. Together I feel assured you will beat back Sherman.

R. E. LEE.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 22, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

Your dispatch informing me that you had directed General Joseph E. Johnston to assume command of the southern army and to assign me to duty with him has just been received. In the defense of our common country I will at all times be happy to serve with or under so gallant and patriotic a soldier as General Johnston.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 22, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

Lieutenant-General Hampton reports as follows from Chester:

Enemy are evidently moving eastward. The Fourteenth Corps on the railroad. Sherman has moved to his right. Kilpatrick is there also. Butler reports enemy moving toward Catawba River. I think they intend to cross low down or to move on Camden. Scouts report them leaving Broad River and moving east.

In consequence of the fall of Wilmington the route of McLaws' troops will be changed at once. Major-General Gilmer arrived here this evening.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES CONFEDERATE STATES,
No. 3. } *February 22, 1865.*

I. General J. E. Johnston, C. S. Army, is hereby assigned to the command of the two military departments known as the Department of Tennessee and Georgia, and the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, and the troops therein. He will proceed at once to effect a concentration of all available forces, and make the necessary dispositions to thwart the designs of the enemy operating in those departments.

II. General G. T. Beauregard, C. S. Army, will report to General J. E. Johnston, commanding, &c., for assignment to such duty as he deems most advisable.

By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 44. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, February 22, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

XL. Capt. A. C. Earle's company, South Carolina Cavalry, is hereby assigned to the Nineteenth Battalion South Carolina Cavalry, and will join the command as soon as practicable.

XLI. Captain Fair's company of reserves is hereby transferred permanently to active service with the consent of officers and men, and is assigned to the Nineteenth Battalion South Carolina Cavalry.

By command of Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
February 22, 1865.

General BRAGG:

If you cannot arrest progress of enemy, concentrate your troops, hang upon his flanks, cripple and retard him, leaving no supplies in his route. Be bold and judicious. Governor will give all aid in his power. If prisoners are not received they must be sent to Richmond by rail or highway as fast as practicable.

R. E. LEE.

CHARLOTTE, *February 22, 1865.*
(Received 23d.)

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Burgaw:

If Wilmington and Weldon track is cut, can you use the rolling-stock to advantage in removing troops to head of North Carolina Railroad toward Salisbury or Charlotte? Refer to Col. R. H. Colvan, president, at Wilmington.

R. T. GUION.

FEBRUARY 22, 1865.

Major PARKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have just been informed by Colonel Lipscomb that the enemy are advancing. I will have everything in readiness. Will ride out and investigate it.

Respectfully, yours,

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

IN THE FIELD,
Northeast River, February 22, 1865.

General BAKER,
Goldsborough:

Colonel Hatch had probably better come on to communicate with enemy relative to exchange. His credentials may accomplish something. We evacuated Wilmington this morning.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

FAYETTEVILLE, *February 22, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

Will the enemy be opposed should he march on Fayetteville?

F. L. CHILDS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

[FEBRUARY 22, 1865.]

Lieutenant-Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville:

The enemy's superior force will, I fear, enable him to send a detachment against you, which can only be met by your own resources.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

FEBRUARY 22, 1865.

Hon. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War:

SIR: At the suggestion of Mr. McRae, of the Raleigh Confederate, I inclose to you some extracts from the Raleigh Standard and Progress of a treasonable character. With the State of North Carolina assailed on every side how can we hope for success when such publications are permitted.

Respectfully, &c., your obedient servant,

J. TAYLOR WOOD.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

RALEIGH, *February 7, 1865.*

[Col. J. TAYLOR WOOD:]

MY DEAR COLONEL: When I was in Richmond I stated the general matters in North Carolina that were going amiss, and recommended the policy which I thought would strengthen the Administration and the Government. First of all, the friends of the Administration should fill the Confederate offices, and they should be carefully selected with reference to their character as gentlemen and men of unquestionable fidelity. I trust that General Breckinridge (to whom you are at liberty to show this letter) will appreciate what I say. I am prepared alone, or in conference with whatever friends the President may select, to recommend such officers as would be the right men to fill the posts in this place. We have news of the result of Messrs. Stephens', &c., conference with Lincoln. It does not disappoint me; but it produces no change here. Holden's paper and the Progress to-day are unequivocally for submission, *i. e.*, they repeat their peace agitation and declare anew the incompetency of the Government to secure peace. They both recommend State action, and the former urges meetings of the people to agitate for a convention, and Judge Pearson on the receipt of information that our commissioners had received the ultimatum of Lincoln, proposed in the House of Commons a resolution that the terms were incompatible with honor or safety, and that we ought to resist with all our means. The resolution was stifled by Messrs. Carter and others. It is apparent that the friends of the Government and the cause here will be crushed unless more strength is put forth. Can it be possible that these disturbing elements are to be still allowed to work their evil when the Confederacy is put upon the distinct issue of ignominious surrender? If so, I have no hope, for in the appeal to the people they have all the prejudices, and, what is worse, they have the

fears on their side; you see what I mean. If nothing can be done to quell the submissive spirit, the Confederacy has nothing to hope from here. I cannot yet judge of the temper and purpose of Congress. But a Government with power can alone now save us. Let the President immediately secure in every post in the State a firm friend and a patriotic officer. Let him be so selected from the State as to give no cause of complaint, and then let measures be adopted as will deter men from hurting the cause, or punish them immediately if they do. I have as little at stake now as most men, and can go down with those who fall with the country, but there is no need to allow trouble in North Carolina. It can be readily quelled by energy and proper governmental authority. The Legislature has adjourned and does not come together until May, but we shall have a most deleterious agitation in the interval unless it be prevented. They not only did no good, but they passed every possible exemption to keep men out of the service, the purpose being openly announced. I write hastily and with a bad pen. I hope for the best, but good does not lie in discussion before the people, but in acute legislation and governmental action.

Yours, very truly,

D. K. McRAE.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

RALEIGH, N. C., *February 14, 1865.*

[Col. J. TAYLOR WOOD:]

MY DEAR COLONEL: You have no doubt supposed, as any rational man would suppose, that the peace element in North Carolina would have subsided after the insulting repulsion of our commissioners and the manifestations on the part of our enemies to force upon us a degrading submission. But such is not the fact, and that you may see that it is not, I send you extracts from the press of this place published since the return of Messrs. Stephens, &c., on the 10th instant, with a view, if possible, to elicit a co-operation of the press and people in the cause. I wrote the article which I inclose from the Confederate. I inclose also articles from the Standard and Progress of subsequent dates. No response has been given to my proposition from either of these papers. Above articles will speak for themselves. Now, it is evident that not only no encouragement is to be given by those who have heretofore stifled the cause in this State to any loyal manifestations, but that the same efforts are to continue to depreciate the Government, to pronounce hopeless the cause, to dispirit and depress the people, and to disaffect them. If this be allowed to continue it is impossible by any argument of speech or writing to counteract the evil influences. Desertions will increase; people will withhold their supplies. The spirit of submission will take fast hold and North Carolina will await the approach of the enemy with resignation to her fate. The present state of things is the natural consequence of the illegitimate course pursued by these journals and their coadjutors for a year past, and we are reaping the fruits of our toleration. You will see plain as day that both these papers recommend submission on any terms, and they have the advantage in that all the logic to be addressed to the fears and prejudices of the ignorant and cowardly and to the selfishness of the needy is on their side, and something stronger than the strongest appeals to manhood, pride, and patriotism, is needed to avert their evil influence. I see no way for any practical aid from the State, not much even for a show of returning enthusiasm except in the military strength of the Government.

Yours, very truly,

D. K. McRAE.

[From the Confederate.]

Taking it for granted that we are all united in the determination to resist to the death the ignominious and degrading terms which the invaders of our country dictate to us, and that the true-hearted people of North Carolina will emulate the hardy and invincible resolution of Virginia, we propose to our contemporaries of the press in Raleigh to unite in an invitation to the people adjacent to Raleigh to assemble in mass meeting in order to give expression to the sentiments of loyalty and the determination of patriotism; that our delegation in Congress and such other distinguished citizens of the State as hold the confidence of the people—without reference to political affiliations or differences of opinion—be invited to be present and address the people on the condition of the country; and that steps may be taken to harmonize and unite all the elements of society, in the common effort to defend our threatened liberties. We ask a response from them.

[From the Progress.]

The "monster mass" meetings being held in Richmond are noticed in all the papers of that city with show-bill headings, but nothing is said about recruits. There is great "enthusiasm" at the meetings, but not a man is put in the army. When will these farces cease?

[From the Progress.]

THE SITUATION.

Things are so confused that there is but little to say about the military situation. Sherman is in South Carolina, seemingly having things his own way. A portion of his force has crossed the Edisto River, near Branchville, but how far he has advanced, or for what point he aims, we are not advised. He is reported as moving on both Augusta and Columbia, but we shall be greatly surprised if he don't move his main force on Charleston while demonstrating on the other two places. We know nothing of the strength of our own force in South Carolina any more than we do of the magnitude of Sherman's army, but if the enemy are not in possession of both Charleston and Wilmington before the March winds have finished their requiem we shall be disappointed. In fact, the evacuation of both of these cities at an early day will not astonish us. These are our convictions, and we see no harm to come of expressing them. And then what? Sherman being able to maintain himself in South Carolina, and the whole country beyond the Savannah River at the mercy of the foe, the two main Federal armies, one in Virginia and the other in South Carolina, will press forward, having General Lee and our army now in South Carolina between them, and the probability is that during the coming summer the thing will be "fought out" and the "last ditch" reached somewhere here in North Carolina, certainly between the Pedee and the Roanoke rivers. The negroes may be put in, or they may be kept out, but the end will come speedily and the result will be the same.

They may whip us or we may whip them—it will depend upon the number, courage, and endurance of the troops—but the campaign of the coming spring and summer will be the last. If we conquer the enemy, we shall have everything our own way, but if they conquer us, we shall be subjugated provinces. These are the facts, and we may as well state them. Peace and equality might be had now by conciliation and compromise, but if we go on and lose, we lose all and become the slaves

of the conquerors. But the time for speculation has ceased—the crisis is upon us—and we feel sure that the best or worst will soon be known. Let all do their duty and bear with patience and fortitude the trials that await us.

[From the Progress.]

We shall probably never know all the facts connected with the conference which recently took place on shipboard in Hampton Roads between Lincoln and Seward and the commissioners of Mr. Davis, but as the details begin to leak out from both sides, we find that the ultimatums of the two rulers were just what we predicted they would be before the conference took place: Lincoln demanded unconditional submission to the laws and authority of the United States, while Mr. Davis' commissioners were instructed to demand the unconditional recognition of the Confederacy, including States that have never furnished us either men or material with which to prosecute the war.

It is evident from the Northern news published by us yesterday that the dispatches that have been sent out from Richmond, relative to the conference, have been highly colored for the purpose of inflaming and exasperating the people, and with the further hope, no doubt, of inducing our people to consent to the mad project of arming and freeing two or three hundred thousand negroes. We have heard from very excellent authority, from a gentleman who has recently mingled with members of Congress in Richmond, that it was well understood there that the delegations from South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and North Carolina were favorably disposed toward reconstruction, provided they could get the Union, as it was, under the Constitution as it is, or was when Mr. Lincoln was inaugurated; and it was also understood that Mr. Davis would not oppose it. Now, if this be so, and we have but little doubt of it, why were the commissioners instructed to demand the unconditional recognition of the Confederacy? Mr. Davis had no idea the Federal authorities would do that, and hence this attempt to negotiate is all a farce, and the supposition that the subject of reconstruction and a restoration of the old Union has been freely discussed and favorably considered by Mr. Davis and his Congress is strengthened by the speech delivered by him on Monday night, in which he is reported as saying that "under no circumstances would he be again for reconstruction and Union."

This language clearly implies, if it implies anything, that he had been for it, and that he would have accepted it could he have obtained his own terms. The dispatches from Richmond tell us a good deal about "pains and penalties," "confiscations," &c., that would follow the acceptance of Lincoln's terms, but they fail to tell us what we get from a Washington dispatch, to wit: "That Lincoln informed the commissioners that recognition was utterly out of the question; that the United States could stop the war only on condition that the authority of the National Government should be recognized and obeyed over the whole territory of the United States. This point conceded, he assured them that upon any other matter of difference they would be treated with the utmost liberality." But this would not do, because it seems from the Northern account of the conference Mr. Stephens was instructed, if he could not get unconditional recognition, to maneuver for temporary recognition, holding out as an inducement that if the Federal authorities would but treat with us "as an independent nation that such an agreement could be had as would unite the North and

South." Is not this trifling with the people who are the great sufferers by this war? Whilst Mr. Davis and his Congress are holding out the idea to their own people that they will have us all annihilated before they will consent to a restoration of the old Union, they send commissioners to the Federal authorities to propose ultimate reconstruction, provided present advantages can be secured thereby.

If the people of the South belong to Mr. Davis and his Congress—if they are but the subjects of a military despotism that is supreme—they will submit to have the negroes freed and armed, and await with meek resignation the ruin, degradation, and slavery that is too sure to follow; but if they are the free citizens of free sovereign States, they will not bow the neck for the yoke that is preparing for them, but will demand that such terms as the Federal authorities propose to offer be submitted to them for their ratification or rejection. This is the people's war, and we are satisfied, from our intercourse with them, that an immense majority are for stopping it.

[From the Standard.]

The Confederate, of this city, after giving the terms of peace offered by Mr. Lincoln to the Southern people, says:

> Before expressing the sentiments with which these propositions impress us, we wait to see whether those who have heretofore differed from us, will offer us hopes of united action.

The Legislature of this State, which has just adjourned, would neither make war nor make peace. It seemed to halt between two opinions. The reply of Mr. Lincoln was known to that body before it adjourned, and yet it neither prolonged its session nor expressed its views in relation to the terms which he had offered us. It said neither yea nor nay to those terms. Of course we speak of the majority, composed of Davis and Vance destructives. Even the editor of the Confederate, who speaks for the Confederate officials in this State and for the destructive party, "waits to see" what his opponents will do before he buckles on his armor and hurls defiance at President Lincoln. Under these circumstances what are we to do? If the editor of the Confederate and those who agree with him think there is reasonable ground for hoping that Grant and Sherman can be driven back, the Federal armies generally defeated, our lost territory regained, and that, as the result of this, the enemy will sue for peace and then give us independence—we say, if they think there is reasonable ground for hoping for this, let them urge on the war; but let them remember that the Confederacy will need, in order to make successful headway in the field, at least 200,000 more men, to say nothing of negro soldiers; and that supplies must be produced for the army and the people at home. If the war fever is increasing, and if the purpose is to "fight it out" to the last extremity, why is it that we hear of no volunteering, and of no efforts to raise companies to meet the enemy? But suppose there should be no reasonable ground to hope for success, and that from very desperation the war should be prosecuted six months longer, and 50,000 more lives should be lost, and all these States should be overrun and subjugated, and utter ruin should thus befall us, sweeping into its vortex our slaves and the unoffending women and children, and the States should be reduced to a territorial condition and military governors placed over them, and they should be held in this condition for years; suppose these results should take place, what would be the feelings and fate of those whom the people would regard as instrumental in causing all these calamities?

[From the Standard.]

Mr. EDITOR: In the characteristic and eloquent speech of Hon. Mr. Turner, published in your last issue, a very graphic parallel is drawn between the combatants in the present awful struggle and the old Romans and Carthagenians, led on respectively by Scipio and Hannibal. I quote from the speech:

"The two colossal powers of the new continent well represent the two powers of the old. The North, old, rich, crafty, and more perfidious than Carthage; the South, young, poor, robust, and brave as Rome.

Now that the two armies upon Powhatan's parent stream impend like two clouds surcharged with electricity, with whose contact must come the thunder shock; now that Hannibal and Scipio eye each other from head to foot; now that they are ready when spring opens to close again with each other; now, while there is a pause in the storm, in the name of God, in the name of humanity, let the statesman say, 'Peace, be still.' Let the statesman say, as Napoleon said to the King of England, after his hundred battles, 'Sire, is it not time for peace?' And if peace follows not an honest effort at negotiation, then let young Rome gather all her forces for one last appalling effort, and God grant she may sweep perfidious Carthage from the face of the earth."

Mr. Editor, has not the "honest effort" been made? Have we not done all that could be done consistent with dignity and honor? Have we not almost prostrated ourselves "before the throne," and have we not been spurned? As it seems that peace could not follow this honest effort at negotiation, ought we not now with one voice sternly say, now "let young Rome gather all her forces for one last appalling effort, and God grant she may sweep perfidious Carthage from the face of the earth!" What more can we do? Ought we not now to be united? If we fall in the struggle, we at least save our honor. If we submit, we lose all, and honor too. I think I may appeal to you to save the country from that last deep degradation. As one who has accorded to your paper honest intentions, coupled with great power and influence in our good old State (though in many things compelled to differ with you in sentiment), may I not without presumption urge now a reunion to save Rome in her struggle for life? She needs your strong arm and asks it. Shall she ask in vain?

W.

We cheerfully give our subscriber and correspondent a hearing, though we have differed with him politically. But while we have seriously considered what he has said, it seems to us that we should bear in mind, while commencing to fight *de novo*, the following verses from Holy Writ:

For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?

Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him,

Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish.

Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?

Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace.—St. Luke, 14th chapter, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st and 32d verses.

ROCK HILL, S. C., *February 22, 1865—9.40 a. m.*

General HAMPTON,
Chester, S. C.:

Should enemy move in direction of Catawba Valley send parties on each side of river to remove or destroy all supplies, as already directed.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ROCK HILL, S. C., *February 22, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Chesterville, S. C.:

Dispatch of yesterday relative to Cadets should read "could not" instead of "would not." Please correct it.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

ROCK HILL, *February 22, 1865.*

General HAMPTON,
Chester, S. C.:

Kanapaux is with Stevenson. Order will be given as desired by you on arrival in Charlotte.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS C. S. ARMIES,
February 23, 1865.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I inclose a copy of the order* assigning you to command, and trust that you will be able to enter at once upon the discharge of your duties. General Beauregard, upon whose cheerful and zealous support I need not say you can fully rely, will apprise you of the present condition of affairs. Leaving the adoption of the best measures of defense to your skill and judgment, I will only suggest what has occurred to me from the information I have received. I have doubted whether it was General Sherman's intention to move by way of Charlotte, Greensborough, and Danville, toward Richmond, as the difficulties attending that course would be very great. I thought that after a demonstration in [that] direction, laying waste the country and destroying the railroads, he would turn toward the coast and reopen his communications and endeavor to unite with the army of General Schofield, operating on the Cape Fear River. The latest intelligence from General Hampton would indicate that General Sherman is moving eastwardly toward Camden. Should such be his purpose the troops that withdrew from Charleston toward Monk's Corner would be in some danger of falling between General Sherman and General Schofield, and I think it would be best to move them as rapidly as possible to Fayetteville, or any other convenient point whence they can proceed to General Beauregard's army, or be otherwise used as you see fit. The movement

* See Special Orders, No. 3, p. 1248.

of General Sherman above suggested would also intercept the march of Stewart's and Cheatham's corps, which, as I understand, are advancing east of Columbia to join the forces under Beauregard in front of Sherman. If a junction of these troops cannot be effected at once with the rest of the army they should be kept upon the enemy's flank so as to embarrass his movements until such time as they can be united with the others. I need not say that the first thing to be done is to concentrate all our forces and bring out every available man. If this can be accomplished in time to strike General Sherman before he reaches the coast or unites with Schofield, I hope for favorable results. His progress can be embarrassed and retarded by removing or destroying all kinds of supplies on his route, and I hope you will spare no effort to accomplish this object. You will have to depend upon marching, to a great extent, for the movement of your troops, and upon wagons for transporting supplies. Should your operations bring you within reach of the troops under General Bragg, and you find that they can be used to advantage, of course you will direct their movements. In this connection I call your attention to the fact that a column of the enemy is reported as preparing to move by Kinston toward Goldsborough, to oppose which there is only a small force under General Baker. If, on the other hand, General Sherman should advance northwardly toward Greensborough and Danville and we cannot check him, it will become necessary for this army to change its position. I am endeavoring to hold General Grant in check as long as possible and resist any attempt he may make to co-operate with the Federal forces in North Carolina. At this time nothing can be sent from here to your assistance, but should the enemy reach the Roanoke, I should endeavor to unite with you to strike him, or if opportunity occurred, to attack General Grant if he follows me rapidly. This outline will explain generally the posture of affairs. It is needless for me to call your attention to the vital importance of checking General Sherman and preserving our railroad communications as far as practicable. I rely confidently upon you to do all that the means at your disposal will permit, and hope for the most favorable issue. You can depend upon receiving all the assistance I can render. Please keep me advised of the enemy's movements, and of your own, that I may be able to co-operate as far as practicable. It will be well to call upon the State authorities to set to work at once to repair the roads as they are left open by the advance of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 23, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

General Beauregard has given orders for the concentration of all his forces. Lieutenant-General Hardee is moving by Florence and Cheraw, and Major-General Cheatham and Lieutenant-General Stewart by Newberry. In front of the Federal army are the cavalry and S. D. Lee's corps, 3,000; Stewart and Cheatham, 3,200; Lieutenant-General Hardee's, about 11,000; cavalry, about 6,000. I suggest that General Bragg's troops join these. Can Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson, assistant adjutant general, join me? I have no staff, that of the Army of Tennessee being dispersed.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 23, 1865.*

President JEFFERSON DAVIS,
Richmond, Va.:

Enemy's movement from Winnsborough toward Catawba River seems to be more positive. He has withdrawn from vicinity of Chesterville, which will enable Cheatham and Stewart to reach here via Newberry and Unionville. Enemy may now probably move on Cheraw and Fayetteville. I have given orders accordingly to General Hardee. Could not all our forces be united against Grant?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
February 23, 1865.

General BEAUREGARD,
Charlotte:

If enemy turns east McLaws will be in danger. Hasten him forward, also mass all troops in your rear to retard and embarrass enemy until you can bring them forward. They must march vigorously.

R. E. LEE.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 23, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

Orders have been sent to McLaws to comply with the instructions contained in your dispatch of this date.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 23, 1865.*

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President Confederate States, Richmond, Va.:

SIR: In compliance with your instructions of the 20th instant I proceeded with dispatch to this place, and on my arrival yesterday I found General Beauregard here, who had just returned from the front. At our first interview he informed me that his opinion was the enemy—then near Chesterville—would press on at once to Charlotte, making it impossible for our forces to be concentrated here in sufficient strength to resist successfully, and that it would probably be necessary, in order to gain time, to fall back to Salisbury, or even to some point east of the Yadkin River. Major-General Stevenson's command, about 2,000 effectives, was within one day's march of this place; Major-General Cheatham's corps, of about the same strength, was at or near Newberry, S. C.; Lieutenant-General Stewart's, say 1,200, a day's march in rear of Cheatham; and Lieutenant-General Hardee's forces, probably at or in the vicinity of Florence. The telegrams from General Hampton last night intimated that the enemy was moving eastwardly, possibly to Cheraw by Camden. Cheatham and Stewart have been ordered to come directly to Charlotte, in case Sherman's movement toward the east be confirmed, and Hardee directed to press forward to the north of Cheraw, but to delay the enemy's march by obstructing roads, &c. The work of blocking roads, destroying bridges, and filling up fords, south of this place, will be pressed with vigor. The people of the country will furnish

labor in abundance, with all necessary subsistence and tools. It is not improbable the enemy may go via Cheraw to Fayetteville, where supplies can be sent to him by way of the Cape Fear River, afterward to Goldsborough or Raleigh, and establish a temporary base at New Berne. Should this prove to be the case, such forces as we have can be concentrated in the eastern part of this State, in time, it is hoped, to meet him.

I am, with high respect, your obedient servant,

J. F. GILMER,
Major-General and Chief Engineer.

[FEBRUARY 23, 1865.—For General Orders, No. 8, from Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, Richmond, relating to the service of the Reserves, see Vol. XLVI, Part II, p. 1251.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 45. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, February 23, 1865.*

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XIII. General J. E. Johnston, C. S. Army, is assigned to duty, and will report for orders by telegraph to General R. E. Lee, Commander-in-Chief, Petersburg, Va.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 51. } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *February 23, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

VI. Brig. Gen. C. Leventhorpe, Provisional Army, C. S., will report to General B. Bragg, commanding, &c., for assignment to the command of Clingman's brigade, Hoke's division.

By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, Charlotte, N. C., February 23, 1865—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General STEWART, or
Major-General CHEATHAM,
At or about Newberry, S. C.:

Wilmington having fallen into the hands of the enemy, it renders the movement via that city impracticable at present. Hence, should you have already reached the vicinity of Columbia, you will repair to Cheraw by railroad, as already instructed, from Statesburg or Manchester, with as much rapidity as possible; thence by dirt road to Greensborough, via Wadesborough and Ashborough. Couriers will

meet you at those points to give you information of the enemy's movements, if threatening or necessary. At Cheraw you will find seven days' supplies, provisions and forage. Should you not have advanced to the vicinity of Columbia you will await further orders at or about Newberry. Should the enemy move, however (as is now reported), across the Catawba and thence eastwardly, instead of directly on Charlotte, you will repair forthwith from your present position to Chesterville by the best or safest route, where cars will await your arrival to bring you to this place.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

P. S.—2.30 p. m.—Having just learned that you had arrived at Jones' Ferry, you will proceed at once to Chesterville or by the route already laid down by Lieutenant-General Hampton.*

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 23, 1865.

COMMANDANT POST,
Camak, Ga.:

SIR: It is the direction of General Beauregard that you see that no delay occurs, and facilitate the forwarding of subsistence stores consigned to Maj. H. Cranston, commissary of subsistence, Augusta, Ga., for Barnett.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 23, 1865.

Col. A. F. RUDLER,
Commandant Post, Washington, Ga.:

COLONEL: General Beauregard directs that you will turn over the command of the post at Washington to Col. John B. Weems and report promptly to Brigadier-General Fry, Augusta, for orders.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 23, 1865.*

Maj. N. R. CHAMBLISS,
Salisbury, N. C.:

Ordnance officer not yet arrived. You had better send some one to take charge of ammunition and let it remain here until needed.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See 1.30 p. m., p. 1261.

FEBRUARY 23, 1865.

[General STEWART:]

I wrote you a few moments since. Inclosed I send you a communication from Colonel Crews. Prospects for boats are gloomy. I will order him, if possible, to get some boats from the Saluda River, even as high up as McNary's Ferry. I am afraid that, on account of the mill-dams, it will be difficult to get them out.

B. F. CHEATHAM,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS CREWS' CAVALRY BRIGADE,
Seven Miles from Columbia on the Columbia and Frog Level Road, February 23, 1865—7.30 p. m.

Colonel PORTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I sent for a boat this morning which I learn is fifteen miles above Freshly's Ferry. There was also one at Freshly's Ferry which I thought could be repaired. Left some workmen there this morning for the purpose of repairing it. The officer in charge writes me it cannot be done. There is no other flat between there and Columbia. The stream is between 400 and 500 yards wide. I think you will have considerable difficulty in crossing, unless you have some flats built. There is a ford at Freshly's, which I think your men might wade. There is one opposite this point which I think I can get my horses across with considerable difficulty. Wagons cannot cross at either. Should it rain so as to raise the river, I do not think the river could be crossed at either ford. I think there is no enemy near the river on the other side. I sent out scouts this morning. Hardly think I will hear from them to-night, as there will be some difficulty in their crossing the river. The enemy has destroyed nearly all the forage in this vicinity. It is extremely difficult to get any forage for horses. I dispatched you late yesterday evening and this morning. Have not heard from you since I left Newberry.

Respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

C. C. CREWS,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
Chesterville, S. C., February 23, 1865—1.30 p. m.

Major-General CHEATHAM,
Commanding Corps:

GENERAL: Lieut. Gen. Wade Hampton directs me to inclose to you the accompanying telegram just received from General Beauregard. At the present time General Hampton considers the route to Chesterville clear, and in accordance with the instructions of the commanding general desires you to move at once by rapid marches to this place. He has received intelligence that you crossed the Ennoree River yesterday morning, and he presumes that you are now in the vicinity of Unionville, and directs me to indicate the following as the route which you should take, viz: From Unionville to cross the Broad River at Love's Ford, just below Turkey Creek, thence by Carmel Hill Post-Office to this place. He sends you a guide, the bearer of this, Private E. B. Lawson, who is well acquainted with the country. General Hampton will keep the roads on this side of Broad River leading to your line of march picketed, and

will keep you informed of any movement of the enemy. If the enemy's movements make it necessary you will diverge from the line of march indicated and join General Hampton at Yorkville. He desires you to use the cavalry with you to gain information for your protection, and requests that you will collect and bring with you all men from General Wheeler's and General Butler's commands that you may be able to find. He desires also that you will at once send a copy of these instructions and of the telegram from the commanding general to General Stewart, that he may follow the same line of march as speedily as possible. He desires you to acknowledge the receipt of this by a fresh courier sent to this place, or to meet us on the line of the Yorkville or Charlotte railroad, between this place and Yorkville, and to communicate your progress and any news that you may have of General Stewart in the same direction.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 23, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON:

Send guide to Cheatham, and order him to join you at Chester if road is clear, otherwise by Yorkville. Order him to make rapid marches. Send same instructions to General Stewart.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

Report of effective strength of Lee's corps, February 23, 1865.

Divisions.	Brigades.	Effective total.	Total present.	Aggregate present.
Clayton *a*	Stovall's *b*	343	449	492
	Jackson's	81	142	135
Johnson's *c*	Deas'	277	388	443
	Manigault's	285	314	422
Stevenson's *d*	Pettus'	380	535	602
	Palmer's *e*	553	160	855
Kanapaux's	Battery	81	84	88
Maxwell's	Light Battery	32	37	38
Sum total		2,032	2,109	3,075

a Baker's brigade, of Clayton's division, absent, en route from Mobile, Ala.
b Fifty-second Georgia Regiment, Stovall's brigade, detailed as guard to train from Columbus, Miss.
c Sharp's and Brantly's brigades left in Mississippi by order of General Beauregard.
d Cumming's brigade, of Stevenson's division, absent with General Hardee.
e Fifty-fourth Virginia Regiment, Palmer's brigade, guard to train from Columbus, Miss.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General, Commanding.

NEAR CHARLOTTE, N. C.

BURGAW, N. C., *February 23, 1865—1 p. m.*
(Received 4.15 p. m. 25th.)

General J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War, Richmond:

My observation in returning from Richmond satisfies me that a considerable element in our military resources is being lost by furloughing

our returned prisoners. Even their transportation seriously embarrasses us. Many will be captured, and but few can possibly rejoin their commands in time for opening campaign. Concentrated in some healthy camp in Virginia or North Carolina and provisionally organized, they would form an important reserve at this crisis, even if not physically fit for an active campaign.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

FEBRUARY 23, 1865.

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Raleigh:
(Care of Governor Vance.)

We evacuated Wilmington yesterday morning, bringing off everything of value. Enemy made but feeble pursuit. Both armies now stationary. Our headquarters near Burgaw Station.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *February 23, 1865.*
(Received 24th.)

General BRAGG,
Teachey's:

General Johnston applies for Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson, assistant adjutant-general. If you can spare him order him to report to General Johnston at or near Charlotte.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
February 23, 1865—8 a. m.

General HÉBERT:

The commanding general desires you to put your negro force in motion for Goldsborough, under a proper officer, and a suitable number of managers, with instructions to repair the roads, bridges, &c., thoroughly as they go along. You, with your other officers and engineer troops, will continue to move with the army.

Respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Camp near Burgaw Station, February 23, 1865—10 a. m.

General HOKE:

General Bragg desires to know whether there is any indication of movements by the enemy in your rear which would require the trains here to move on. Unless pressed back he wishes the cavalry to remain on the Northeast.

Respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FEBRUARY 23, 1865.

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: There are no indications of a move thus far. Do not think it necessary to send on the trains.

Respectfully, yours,

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

BURGAW, *February 23, 1865—6 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES,
Raleigh:

Dispatch received. I am making such dispositions for defense of Fayetteville as my means allow.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *February 23, 1865.*
(Received 2.35 o'clock.)

General GORGAS:

Do the authorities appreciate the importance of Fayetteville? Eight cotton factories here, machinery of navy ordnance works, coal and iron of Deep River country, besides what we have.

F. L. CHILDS,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

[Indorsement.]

RICHMOND, *February 24, 1865.*

Respectfully referred to the honorable Secretary of War for his information.

J. GORGAS,
Chief of Ordnance.

FEBRUARY 23, 1865.

Lieutenant-Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville:

Two strong companies infantry and a battery will be sent to-morrow to operate on Cape Fear near Elizabethtown. General Bragg desires you to make every effort to obstruct the river, communicating with the detachment from here.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 23, 1865.*

General BRAGG,
Burgaw:

My own force, operatives, &c., number 250; 100 or 200 others may join; 1,000 re-enforcements might make a good defense. Advise me of movements in this direction on east or west bank. Have they cavalry?

F. L. CHILDS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

BURGAW, *February 23, 1865.*

Colonel CHILDS, *Fayetteville:*

General Bragg directs me to say, impossible for us, in present position, to know enemy's movements on Cape Fear. Enemy have little or no cavalry. Small mounted force pushed to front will, therefore, keep you informed. Have scouts well out, and obstruct river as much as possible. Place field battery in position to prevent passage of transports.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 23, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Chesterville, S. C.:

Enemy's present movement will seriously endanger militia under General Garlington. Send him telegram of to-day (after reading it) addressed to your care.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

Important Appeal.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Charlotte, N. C., February 23, 1865.

To delay the advance of the enemy until our troops can be massed in strength sufficient to crush them, I appeal to all good and patriotic citizens in the region of country threatened by the enemy to turn out in full force all available labor, with axes, spades, and mattocks, to destroy and obstruct roads leading toward Charlotte from the south, commencing first along the roads leading to Landsford, and other crossings between that point and the railroad bridge, obstructing at the same time all roads parallel to the river within the following limits: The Pleasant Valley road, on the east, to a point opposite Landsford; thence across the Catawba to Fishing Creek; thence up said creek to the Charlotte and South Carolina Railroad. Afterward the work should be continued farther up the river, should the enemy threaten an advance in that direction. The negroes should be assembled at the following points, viz, Charlotte, Pleasant Valley, Belair, Landsford, Fort Mills, and Rock Hill, under the direction of their owners, each with six days' provisions, cooking utensils, and blankets. As far as possible the negroes will be employed at points not distant from their homes. They will be protected by guards, and assisted by the home guards of the State. An engineer officer will be at each of the points of rendezvous to give proper direction to the labor of all who will now join us in the struggle to stay and destroy the ruthless invaders of our homes.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

CHARLOTTE, *February 23, 1865.*

I earnestly appeal to the people of North Carolina to comply promptly with this request. I am satisfied they could render no greater service to their country.

Z. B. VANCE,
Governor of North Carolina.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 23, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

Wilmington was evacuated at 7 a. m. 22d instant. I saw General Bragg at his headquarters ten miles this side. He had advised our friends to pass to Cheraw. I return by first train.

D. H. HAMILTON.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 23, 1865—7 p. m.*

Brig. Gen. A. C. GARLINGTON,
On Way to Camden, S. C.:
(Care of General Hampton.)

Enemy's movement being reported eastward toward Catawba River, it is advisable you should report forthwith to General Hampton at or about Chesterville with the forces under your command, for the defense of that portion of the State of South Carolina now threatened.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 24, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va:

General Beauregard telegraphs from Charlotte, the 23d instant, as follows:

Enemy's movement from Winnsborough toward Catawba River seems to be more positive. He has withdrawn from vicinity of Chesterville, which will enable Cheatham and Stewart to reach here via Newberry and Unionville. Enemy may now probably move on Cheraw and Fayetteville. I have given orders accordingly to General Hardee. Could not all our forces be united at once against Grant?

This indicates that Sherman's main column is directed to the east. It may be that he has not advanced beyond Columbia and will move for supplies to Wilmington.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
February 24, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

Enemy may be making for the Pedee Valley in search of subsistence. Hardee, in Cheraw, would be in position and could destroy all which cannot be removed. Horses, mules, and cattle should be driven out of reach.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 24, 1865.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Please order Colonel Harvie, Lieutenant-Colonel Mason, and all officers of the staff of the Army of Tennessee to report without delay to General Johnston, at Charlotte. I understand those named are in Richmond, and there may be others as General Johnston reports that the staff has dispersed.

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 46. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, February 24, 1865.*

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XIX. The following-named assistant adjutants-general are assigned to duty with General Joseph E. Johnston, commanding, &c., and will report in person to General Johnston, at Charlotte, N. C.: Col. E. J. Harvie, Lieut. Col. G. A. Henry, Maj. William Clare, Lieut. Col. A. P. Mason, Majs. P. B. Lee, K. Falconer.

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XXV. Maj. John B. Hoge, assistant adjutant-general, will proceed without delay on special service to Raleigh, N. C., under instructions from honorable Secretary of War.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 24, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

General Taylor reports, under date of the 17th, from Meridian, Miss., as follows:

Thomas, with bulk of his army, has landed at Vicksburg, and moved out four miles east from there with pontoon train. Enemy concentrating at Pensacola. Think he will probably move simultaneously from Vicksburg, Pensacola, and Decatur.

General Johnston temporarily absent; will return to-morrow.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 24, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

Telegram 22d instant duly received. March of Hardee's troops on this place from Cheraw was changed to railroad, via Wilmington and Raleigh, on assurance of Governor Vance and General Bragg that the troops could reach here much sooner. The fall of Wilmington, however, caused the order to be immediately countermanded by General Bragg and myself.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 24, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

General Hampton reports from Chesterville yesterday evening no enemy nearer than White Oak. He is reported crossing Peay's Ferry. A large force of cavalry moved from Hopewell Church toward Rocky Mount Ferry. Butler is now across river. Hampton will put himself in front of enemy, leaving one brigade to press his rear. I have ordered Hardee to hasten his march from Cheraw. Mail courier reports Cheatham at Jones' Ferry on Ennoree morning of 22d instant. I have ordered him and Stewart here via Unionville and Chesterville, where I

may stop them temporarily. Enemy's movement would seem to indicate Cheraw and Fayetteville as their present objective point. General Taylor reports from Meridian, Miss., on the 15th, twenty-five transports loaded with troops, accompanied by General Thomas, reached Vicksburg on the 13th instant.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
In the Field, Charlotte, N. C., February 24, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs that you order the headquarters' staff of the Army of Tennessee to report to General J. E. Johnston, at or near this place, as soon as possible. The officer of the adjutant-general's department should be directed to bring with him such records as will be indispensable to a reorganization. He further orders that the troops and trains of that army (except the light artillery) as have arrived at Augusta (accompanied by Young's division of cavalry, if not indispensable to the safety of Augusta) to move to this place via Newberry, Unionville, and Yorkville, or Chesterville; should movements of enemy permit it, latter route. The light batteries of the Army of Tennessee now at Augusta and Macon will remain at those points until further orders, reporting themselves to their headquarters.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 24, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. BRADLEY T. JOHNSON,
Salisbury, N. C.:

No orders at present except to be prepared to move off everything valuable at moment's notice.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 24, 1865—8.30 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON:
Chester, S. C.:

Movement of enemy across Wateree endangers Hardee's march on this place via Cheraw. Send him courier to warn him of his danger, and hurry him forward. I have done same from here.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 24, 1865—9.45 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Chesterville, S. C.:

Can Stevenson's command act advantageously without embarrassing movements of your cavalry, by operating from Chester or Winnsborough against enemy's rear in his apparent movement eastward?

G T. BEAUREGARD.

CHESTER, *February 24, 1865—11 a. m.*

General BEAUREGARD:

He (General Stevenson) can do nothing now. Will let you know if he can strike. Command has gone. I am just moving.

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Newberry, S. C., February 24, 1865.

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: Your dispatch of 1.30 p. m. yesterday to General Cheatham, inclosing telegram from General Beauregard, has just been received here by me. I reached here yesterday morning. Found General Cheatham had returned to this place the day before and was moving his troops by rail to Pomaria, preparatory to going round by the route indicated in General Beauregard's instructions of the 19th instant. Yesterday evening General C. went to Pomaria himself, where all the troops he had with him are encamped. There will be more, perhaps 2,000 or more, from Augusta to-morrow. I will communicate with General C. immediately, and then decide whether to move as indicated in General B.'s dispatch of yesterday or by the one indicated in instructions of 19th. I suppose General B.'s order of yesterday was based on the supposition that Cheatham was still on the march and had not returned to this place. My own opinion is we can still move by route C. started on with better hope of getting up in time than by the railroad. I cannot decide until I can see General C. again or communicate with him. I will dispatch you again.

Very respectfully,

ALEX. P. STEWART,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 24, 1865—12.20 p. m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Near Wilmington, N. C.:

Enemy has moved from Winnsborough to Catawba River, which he has crossed at several points. This may indicate a movement on Cheraw, Fayetteville, and Goldsborough, or Raleigh. Be prepared accordingly. Could not Cape Fear River be thoroughly obstructed low down to prevent him from getting supplies from Wilmington?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 16. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, February 24, 1865.

The following officers of the general staff are announced as chiefs of their departments at these headquarters: Maj. S. V. Reid, commissary of subsistence; Surg. T. G. Richardson, acting medical director.

By order of General Bragg:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Register's House, near Teachey's Depot, February 24, 1865.

General HOKE:

The commanding general desires you to use the broken-down cavalry, or any other available detachments to establish guards on all the roads in rear of Rockfish Creek, and prevent stragglers and unauthorized persons from passing. The telegraph office for your headquarters had better be where the Duplin road crosses the railway.

Respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 24, 1865.*

Colonel ANDERSON, *Teachey's:*

General Baker has no place to store my supplies, and says the place is not safe. The supplies can be brought from Raleigh in four hours. Shall I send Major Sloan to have ready supplies in Raleigh? General Baker says he has other stores to occupy his houses.

H. OLADOWSKI.

HEADQUARTERS C. S. ARMIES,
February 24, 1865.

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE,
Governor of North Carolina, Raleigh:

GOVERNOR: The state of despondency that now prevails among our people is producing a bad effect upon the troops. Desertions are becoming very frequent and there is good reason to believe that they are occasioned to a considerable extent by letters written to the soldiers by their friends at home. In the last two weeks several hundred have deserted from Hill's corps, and as the divisions from which the greatest number of desertions have taken place are composed chiefly of troops from North Carolina they furnish a corresponding proportion of deserters. I think some good can be accomplished by the efforts of influential citizens to change public sentiment and cheer the spirits of the people. It has been discovered that despondent persons represent to their friends in the army that our cause is hopeless, and that they had better provide for themselves. They state that the number of deserters is so large in the several counties that there is no danger to be apprehended from the home guards. The deserters generally take their arms with them. The greater number are from regiments from the western part of the State. So far as the despondency of the people occasions this sad condition of affairs, I know of no other means of removing it than by the counsel and exhortation of prominent citizens. If they would explain to the people that the cause is not hopeless; that the situation of affairs, though critical, is critical to the enemy as well as ourselves; that he has drawn his troops from every other quarter to accomplish his designs against Richmond, and that his defeat now would result in leaving nearly our whole territory open to us; that this great result can be accomplished if all will work diligently and zealously; and that his successes are far less valuable in fact than in appearance, I think our sorely tried people would be induced to make one more effort to bear their sufferings a little longer, and regain some of the spirit that marked the first two years of the war. If they will, I feel confident that, with the blessing of God, what seems to be

our greatest danger will prove the means of deliverance and safety. Trusting that you will do all in your power to help us in this great emergency,

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Macon, Ga., February 24, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

The great necessity for the services of the militia of this State for a time in the agricultural field, in connection with the fact that the State is, for the first time in some ten months, free from threatened advance of the enemy upon the interior, and the further fact that they are composed of a class of men not subject to Confederate service, induce me to withdraw them for a time from your command, that they may have a furlough till the State is again threatened by the enemy. When needed for the defense of this State, I hope to have them ready for the occasion, prepared to act with the same distinguished gallantry and patriotic devotion which has heretofore characterized their conduct upon the battle-field.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

JOS. E. BROWN.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 25, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: Your order to me to concentrate all available forces and drive back Sherman implies, of course, that you regard those forces as adequate to the object and their concentration in time practicable. In my reply by telegraph on the 22d the opposite opinion is expressed. Fuller information obtained since confirms me in that opinion. The Federal army is within the triangle formed by the three bodies of our infantry. It can, therefore, prevent their concentration or compel them to unite in its rear by keeping on its way without loss of time. It is estimated at 40,000, and was at last accounts crossing the Wateree east of Winnsborough, as if moving upon Fayetteville. The available forces are Hardee's troops arriving at Cheraw by railroad and estimated by General Beauregard at 12,000. I believe that several thousand are South Carolina militia and reserves, who will not go beyond Cheraw; Lee's corps, Army of Tennessee, near Charlotte, 3,500; Stewart's corps, Army of Tennessee, 1,200; Cheatham's corps, Army of Tennessee, 1,900. The two latter when last heard of were near Newberry. These troops, except Hardee's, have only the means of transporting cooking utensils, and, therefore, cannot operate far from railroads. The cavalry, under Lieutenant-General Hampton, amounts to about 6,000. In my opinion these troops form an army too weak to cope with Sherman. Having expressed the opinion that your order could not be executed with the means at my disposal, I have thought it my duty to give a fuller statement in support of that opinion than that contained in a brief telegram. If our troops and those of General Bragg could be united in time the progress of Sherman's army might be stopped, otherwise it may unite with that of Schofield. This junction of our forces might be made near Fayetteville.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 25, 1865—4.30 a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Army of Northern Virginia:

General Hardee has already been ordered to destroy or remove all supplies. Is it your desire he should remain under present circumstances in valley of Pedee to operate therein? He might be cut off, unless he retired on Fayetteville, thence on Goldsborough or Raleigh, which may be the intended line of march of enemy.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 25, 1865.

General BEAUREGARD,
Charlotte, N. C.:

Have no desire to retard Hardee's movements; give orders according to your judgment. If enemy turns toward Pedee, presume your movements will correspond. If you can deprive enemy of subsistence think he cannot advance. Should he advance toward Fayetteville you might unite with Bragg and defeat him.

R. E. LEE.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 25, 1865—7 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

General Hampton reports this evening from Rock Hill Station small force of enemy's cavalry entered Lancaster and retired last night. Infantry crossed at Rocky Mount and Peay's Ferry. No report from General Hardee.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 25, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: In the absence of any intelligence from you I have been embarrassed on several matters of importance. Your orders of the 18th [19th] instant to Generals Cheatham and Stewart to proceed via Columbia to Statesburg or Manchester, and there take rail to Greensborough, was not received here until the 23d through General Cheatham, who reported he would move that morning in execution of the orders. Copies were immediately forwarded to General Stewart for his action and guidance. To cover this movement copies were also furnished Major-General Young, with instructions after covering the roads with sufficient force to Augusta from Columbia, Charleston, and Savannah, to send the balance of his command to open up communication with Stewart and Cheatham and protect their line of march. All the organized commands having passed here prior to any notice of this change in the movement, General Hill, at his request and in pursuance of what I understood to be your wishes, was relieved and ordered to report to you. He thought he could be more useful to you in the field than here. Concurring in this view, and for the reasons stated, I relieved him. Had the information been known to me of the new change of movement I should

have retained him. Not being able to anticipate what new combinations might take place, and in view of the change, regarding the route via Washington and Abbeville as not practicable at present, I directed all our wagons to move in this direction, so that they might be at hand for future orders.

I forward you a copy of a letter from General Taylor in relation to the wants of his department. The means to supply them are not in our power. Dispatches from him show that he is apprehensive of being overrun. They have been sent to you. In view of this I have directed all the surplus commissary stores of that department to be collected this side of the Chattahoochee for our future wants. General Taylor has likewise notified General Cobb that he must fortify and defend Columbus and West Point, and in consequence of this Governor Brown has notified General Fry this morning that he has ordered away all the militia of Georgia from this place. The effect of this movement will uncover this place and expose it to a raid from Charleston and Savannah. I have so telegraphed Governor Brown. In the event that he has this order executed I shall retain here the troops now organized under Generals Featherston and Shelley, to maintain the lines defending this place, and as General Young is the ranking officer, will assign him to command all the forces of the district. This is necessary as there should be but one responsible and controlling head. I will be glad to hear from you on these subjects and receive your instructions. I would have followed General Hill, but the new change in events induced me to remain. I would especially be glad to know what to do with the furloughed commands as they arrive and are organized.

I am, respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, &C.,
Charlotte, March 9, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded to General Johnston.

Major-General Young has been ordered, if he has not yet covered the Santee, to remain in vicinity of Augusta, to protect that place against expeditions sent out from Charleston and Savannah, and to destroy the railroad, if possible, between Branchville and Charleston, and to use every means in his power to prevent the running of trains to Branchville, S. C. All the wagons of the Army of Tennessee have been ordered to this point, and the orders were vetoed on the 7th instant, with instructions if they had not yet started from Augusta, that the 2,000,000 rounds of small ammunition referred to by Colonel Kennard in his dispatch of the 6th be brought over in the advance and supply trains of the army. Orders have also been given for troops arriving in Augusta to be collected, organized, and sent forward under proper officers.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

MACON, GA., *February 25, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

The present orders are that the army trains shall be used to carry Major Molloy's stores across the break. Colonel Kennard orders

Captain Humphreys to ship to Camak all his ordnance stores, of which he has 700 wagon loads that have arrived by rail. What portion of these trains shall be devoted to transport ordnance stores? I know not which are the most immediately needed.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

UNIONVILLE, S. C., *February 25, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

GENERAL: I have just received information that a raid in force under the direction of General Stoneman is now in preparation, having for its object the upper districts of the State. Colonel Palmer is, I understand, at Asheville with a small force said to be badly organized. If the State militia and the State Cadets are with your forces I will thank you to detach them; and to Colonel Goodwyn, who commands these troops, I have given directions where to march them. It is to this force that the security of the State can only be intrusted; there is no other force in the State. General Hardee promised me that as soon as he could spare these troops from the lines around Charleston he would send them to me. They had been spared to him under great disadvantages. Unless I can get these troops here, if the raid of General Stoneman is executed, it will waste the whole State. If these troops are not with your army you may be able to direct the courier where he can find Colonel Goodwyn, who is in command of the brigade.

Respectfully, &c.,

A. G. MAGRATH.

The raid is said to be organizing in Cocke County, Tenn.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 25, 1865.*

In obedience to the orders of the general-in-chief the undersigned assumes command of the Army of Tennessee and all troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. He takes this position with strong hope, because he will have in council and in the field the aid of the high talents and skill of the distinguished general whom he succeeds. He exhorts all absent soldiers of the Army of Tennessee to rejoin their regiments and again confront the enemy they so often encountered in Northern Georgia, and always with honor. He assures his comrades of that army who are still with their colors that the confidence in their discipline and valor which he has publicly expressed is undiminished.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

NEWBERRY, S. C., *February 25, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

I arrived here day before yesterday. Found General Cheatham had returned to this place from the direction of Unionville and was sending his troops to Pomaria preparatory to moving by route indicated in your instructions of 19th. On yesterday your telegram of 23d and

instructions of same date from General Hampton to General Cheatham were received. I suppose they were based upon the supposition that Cheatham was marching on and had not returned to this point. However, an examination of the rivers proves that it will require several days, possibly a week, to cross the Broad and Wateree and reach Manchester. I am of opinion, in which Cheatham concurs, that we cannot get round by that route to the point indicated in time. I shall, therefore, march to Unionville and thence direct our march according to information we may receive from General Hampton. Cheatham will move from Pomaria in the morning. Some troops under Loring and Lowry are expected here to-day. If they arrive I will start from here to-morrow, and will press forward as rapidly as possible. It seems unfortunate that General Cheatham did not continue his march, though he acted under the impression that it was your intention from the order of the 19th that he should return and take the other route. Considerable rains have made the roads heavy and our progress will not be so rapid as I could desire.

Very respectfully, &c.,

A. P. STEWART,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, }
No. —. }

HEADQUARTERS,
Newberry, S. C., February 25, 1865.

Capt. B. Kavanaugh, commanding detachment First Alabama Cavalry, will take charge of the prisoners at this point (Captain Brazier and twenty-five men) and move to-morrow morning at sunrise with three days' cooked rations, taking the road to Jones' Ferry on the Ennoree, and then toward Unionville. He will also take with him the horses (thirty or thirty-one) which were brought from Laurensville and which were taken from these men. He will get from Captain Walker, commanding post, all the papers relating to these men, and horses and men will be turned over to General Hampton at the proper time. Captain Kavanaugh will march a little in advance of the infantry column and camp each night near by. During the march he will keep his men well closed up, allowing no straggling and maintaining order day and night.

By command of Lieutenant-General Stewart:

W. D. GALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 25, 1865.

Maj. Gen. P. M. B. YOUNG, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I inclose you copies of communications from General Beauregard of the [19th] instant to Major-General Cheatham and one from General Cheatham to General Hill. They will advise you fully of the change of movements. Under existing circumstances you had [better,] whilst covering the roads to Augusta from the direction of Columbia and Charleston and the crossings of the Savannah River, move with a part of your command to open up communication with General Cheatham in the neighborhood of Columbia, Statesburg, or Manchester. The movement of the forces by that route should be sufficiently covered.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
Near Eave's Mill, February 25, 1865—6.30 a. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that having been told by an old citizen at Chester that I could probably cross both prongs of Fishing Creek, by going the Charlotte road, without swimming, I took that road, and had to swim the first fork. I was then informed by citizens that the crossing over the next prong would be very difficult, and that I had better cross the first fork again at another ford and cross the main stream at Eave's Mill. I got one brigade over the second crossing last night, and propose to put it over at Eave's Mill this morning; Colonel Hagan is still in the fork of the creeks. Will remain until I ascertain definitely whether the crossing at Eave's Mill is good or not; if not good I'll send him to cross at some other ford.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
Near Eave's Mill, February 25, 1865—10 a. m.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Acty. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Wheeler's Cavalry Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to say that I informed you in a previous communication that I reached this vicinity last night with one brigade; the other brigade is still in the fork between the two prongs of Fishing Creek. I find the creek so much swollen that it cannot be crossed at any point in this vicinity without great danger. I shall, accordingly, move in a northwesterly direction, so as to head these creeks. I fear that the Catawba River will be so much swollen by the time I reach it that I shall be unable to cross at Landsford, or that it may be desired that I should not do so. You will please, therefore, send any instructions you may have for me to Steele's house, north of Fishing Creek, on the Nation Ford road. I will send a courier to that point to convey the dispatch to me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 25, 1865—3.30 p. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that having been wrongly informed by citizens yesterday, I moved up the Charlotte road to a point beyond Lewis' Post-Office, and crossed the South Fork of Fishing Creek with the two brigades, and afterward crossed the same stream with Anderson's brigade, expecting to cross the main creek at Eave's Mill; Hagan's brigade could not make the second crossing before night. Finding this morning that the creek could not be crossed at Eave's Mill, I have turned back up the South Fork and will reach

Brattonville to-night. Hagan is moving up the main Fishing Creek and will cross at the first practicable ford. I think I will succeed in crossing at Lowry's Ford to-morrow; I greatly fear that before I reach the river it will not be fordable at Landsford. After crossing creek I shall make inquiries, and if I learn that it is not fordable at that point I shall move directly to Thorn's and Mason's Ferries and cross there. I learn there are no flats on the river below Thorn's.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS HUMES' DIVISION,
February 25, 1865.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to forward the following statement of a scout: Scout went into Lancaster about 12 m. yesterday and found there a scout of the enemy about forty strong. Captured a mounted infantryman (Federal), who stated that there was a division of cavalry (Federal) a few miles from Lancaster on the Brown's Ferry road. Prisoner says that the enemy's division of cavalry would encamp where it was for the night (last night). Another scout went into Lancaster late in the evening and found that the enemy had left. The prisoner captured by the first scout was recaptured on its return.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. Y. C. HUMES,
Brigadier-General.

ROCK HILL, *February 25, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

Small force cavalry entered Lancaster and retired last night. No movements this morning. Infantry crossed at Rocky Mount and Peay's Ferry.

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

MASSEY HOUSE, NEAR CURETON'S FERRY,
February 25, 1865—10 a. m.

General BEAUREGARD:

GENERAL: I sent dispatches to you yesterday from Fort Mills, giving you information of the movements of the enemy. He crossed at Rocky Mount and Peay's Ferry, and a small force cavalry came to Lancaster Court-House yesterday. Prisoners say that they are going to Charlotte. The roads are so bad that I doubt if the enemy moves to-day. I hope to get some artillery soon by which I can check his advance. If the Blakely guns are ready and have ammunition I should like to have them at Fort Mills. Ammunition can be sent from Richmond, if none is in Charlotte. I beg that you will order all cavalry equipments that can be had collected at Charlotte. I have directed General Wheeler to locate the enemy and to attack if possible. I shall cover the

approaches to the railroad as long as possible. One brigade was left on the south of Chester to guard that place and to communicate with General Cheatham. Butler is on the east of the enemy and I have told him to communicate with General Hardee.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 25, 1865—7 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Rock Hill Station, S. C.:

I have ordered a line of couriers from here to Cheraw via Monroe and Wadesborough. You might use them to communicate with General Hardee.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

NEWBERRY, S. C., *February 25, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry:

SIR: I expect to move to-morrow with troops of mine and Cheatham's corps for Unionville, thence if practicable to Chester or Yorkville or Charlotte, according to information I may receive from you or others. You will do me the favor to forward accompanying letter to General Beauregard.*

Very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

ALEX. P. STEWART,
Lieutenant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *February 25, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD, *Charlotte:*

Please advise me of Sherman's movements. If he comes by Charlotte I wish to move a large lot of quartermaster's stores.

Z. B. VANCE.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 25, 1865—1.15 p. m.*

Governor Z. B. VANCE,
Raleigh, N. C.:

Will keep you advised. Nothing important since you left.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

ROCKFISH CREEK, *February 25, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg

Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson is the only officer of the department on duty with me, and the only one of any field experience now available. When his place can be supplied I will not object to his joining General Johnston. My staff is very deficient, my aides-de-camp having been legislated out of service.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

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* See p. 1274.

ROCKFISH CREEK, *February 25, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg:

Sherman is reported to have turned east at Winnsborough, and crossed the Wateree River. This indicates Fayetteville and Raleigh by the old mail-stage road, and through a country not drained of supplies. Hardee is supposed to be in his front at Cheraw. By a union of my forces with General Beauregard at Fayetteville we might strike him before he forms a junction with Schofield or gets supplies up the Cape Fear. If we lose this opportunity we shall be again divided.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

ROCKFISH CREEK, *February 25, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Charlotte, N. C.:

If Sherman moves as you suppose we should all concentrate in his front at Fayetteville. Hardee by Cheraw, retarding his advance; you by way of Raleigh, and my forces from here and Goldsborough. General Lee might aid us, and a success be the result. Divided we can do nothing. A junction with Schofield, who has 20,000, will make Sherman very strong, but embarrass his commissariat, if we can only control the river.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

ROCKFISH CREEK, *February 25, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Charlotte, N. C.:

A detachment is moving to the Cape Fear to obstruct river and retard the enemy. His force is too large for me to meet him with success. He has two corps under Schofield. We have but a division. Please keep Lieutenant-Colonel Childs at Fayetteville advised by telegraph of Sherman's movements, should they tend that way.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

ROCKFISH CREEK, *February 25, 1865.*

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Raleigh:

The main command is at this point; the cavalry at Northeast River. The Federal commander has agreed to receive the prisoners there. See local authorities and urge their rapid transfer to that point. The governor should urge forward the organization of his State forces.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

ROCKFISH CREEK, *February 25, 1865.*

Lieutenant-Colonel OLADOWSKI,
Goldsborough:

Establish depot at Raleigh, and keep only current supplies at Goldsborough.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, *February 25, 1865.*

General BRAGG:

Please inform me of progress of enemy. I desire to move stores, and am waiting for information.

Z. B. VANCE.

ROCKFISH CREEK, *February 25, 1865.*

Governor VANCE,
Raleigh:

The enemy has not advanced in this direction farther than Northeast River, where we are to deliver the prisoners. Our scouts have not yet reported any movement toward Fayetteville. Sherman is reported as having turned in that direction.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

ROCKFISH CREEK, *February 25, 1865.*

Governor VANCE,
Raleigh:

I desire to assign General Leventhorpe to command at Raleigh. If you consent, let me know of his arrival at Raleigh.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 27 [26th?], 1865—8 a. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

General Johnston assumed command yesterday. Enemy's position is still about same on Lancaster and Camden road, made almost impassable by heavy rains.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 26, 1865.*

Hon. G. A. TRENHOLM,
Richmond, Va.:

Route indicated perfectly safe at present, only difficulty being in mode of conveyance.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 26, 1865.

Maj. N. O. TILTON,
Chief Quartermaster:

MAJOR: In reply to your communication of this date, relative to wagon train between this point and Columbia, I have the honor to state that it is at present inexpedient to start it. As soon as I can obtain information showing that it can be established I will advise you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, Ga., February 26, 1865.

Maj. KINLOCH FALCONER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta:

MAJOR: You will report to Major-General Young, Augusta, for instructions temporarily.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Charlotte, N. C., February 26, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE, *Cheraw, S. C.:*

GENERAL: The enemy at last accounts having been at Rocky Mount and Peay's Ferry, on the Catawba River, and it being still undetermined whether he will move thence upon this place or upon Fayetteville, N. C., via Cheraw, you will please concentrate your forces as rapidly as possible at the latter place and there hold them in readiness to move at a moment's notice, either on this point, as already instructed, or to oppose his advance as long as possible should he march by the way of Cheraw, in which event Hampton's cavalry will co-operate with you. Should any movement of Schofield from Wilmington threaten to intercept your march upon Fayetteville and you are not strong enough to give him battle you will then retire slowly in the direction of Raleigh, doing all in your power to check your adversary's advance at all favorable positions. A line of couriers has been established hence to Fayetteville, via Cheraw or Rockingham, as the movements of the enemy shall make necessary. Please keep General Bragg (who is still near Wilmington) and myself advised of your movements and of those of the enemy which may come to your knowledge. There is telegraphic communication from Fayetteville with these headquarters. Your engineers should repair forthwith the roads and bridges on the route to Fayetteville and Salisbury, including, especially, a new bridge across Rocky River. In conclusion, I will again call your attention to the importance of saving surplus stores and supplies of all description at Cheraw. To that end they should be held stored in trains, ready at the proper moment to be sent by rail either in the direction of the Santee River or toward Manchester, or even to Camden, as may become most judicious in view of known movements of the enemy. In case of a retrograde movement before the enemy you will please remove or destroy all supplies of every kind liable to fall into his hands, in which connection I inclose General Orders, No. 4, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,
G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
Cheraw, S. C., February 26, 1865—2 p. m.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Commanding Military Division of the West:

GENERAL: Your dispatches have been received and your instructions will be carried out as far as practicable. The movements of the

enemy indicate an intention of going either to Darlington, Florence, or this place. I think it probable he is making for Florence or Darlington. I regret to inform you that I met with great difficulty and delay in crossing the wagons, artillery, and troops across the Santee. McLaws' division is all here except a brigade which was left at Florence, under Colonel Hardy, to protect that place until the troops, wagons, and artillery have passed. I sent instructions yesterday to General Taliaferro urgently directing him to press forward to this place with the utmost expedition. I expect a portion of his command to night, and most, perhaps all of it, may be here before the enemy shall cut the road. Much of our artillery and most of the wagons are still in rear. I have directed all those which may arrive at Florence to-day and after to remain at that place until the movements of the enemy are developed, and if the command should be compelled to fall back, to move with it. Instructions have been sent to Col. W. M. Hardy, also to General Taliaferro, if unable by movements of the enemy to join me here, to fall back toward the Santee, and to rejoin me by Sumterville and Camden.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

P. S.—It is proper I should add that more of my cavalry has come up. It was the last to cross, being kept in rear to guard the crossing of the Santee. Another cause of delay and embarrassment arises from a heavy rise in the Great Pedee and its tributaries, which has carried away some important bridges on the route, thus causing the wagons and artillery to go much out of the way to reach this place. The lack of cavalry is much felt, as I am unable to learn the movements of the enemy.

W. J. HARDEE.

[Indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 27, 1865.

Respectfully furnished Lieutenant-General Hampton.

Nothing has yet been received from General Cheatham since he was heard of between Newberry and Unionville.

Respectfully,

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Return exhibiting effective total, total present, and aggregate present.

Command.	Effective total.	Total present.	Aggregate present.
Fiser's brigade	841	877	951
Harrison's brigade *a*	897	972	1,045
Conner's brigade	1,433	1,486	1,594
Hardy's brigade *b*	.....	.....	.....
Total	3,171	3,335	3,590

a The Second, Fifteenth, and part of the Twentieth Regiments, South Carolina Volunteers, are behind at Florence.

b Effective total as shown by last report, 750.

HEADQUARTERS MCLAWS' DIVISION,
Cheraw, February 26, 1865.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
On Road from White Oak to Rocky Mount,
February 26, 1865—6 a. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

We wrote you yesterday by a scouting party from the Eighth Confederate that the enemy had all crossed the river and that we would move down toward Peay's Ferry and Camden and try to cross, and sent out scouts night before last to ascertain the condition of things, when they found every boat destroyed and no means of crossing the river. Wateree Creek was past fording, and we moved up it and got upon this road and are moving this morning to Landsford and will cross the Catawba first chance. Our men ran out of rations yesterday and every mill on this side has been burned by the enemy, consequently we will move as rapidly as possible until we can get out of this section and to where we can get rations, and will overtake you as soon as possible. If we had been one day sooner could have got 100 stragglers. It would be of great service to people to have a force in the rear all the while to prevent these stragglers committing so many depredations. If we can cross at Landsford will do so; aim to reach that vicinity to-night, and would be glad to receive orders as to what to do there. Unless otherwise ordered shall move up to the command, unless I can see an opportunity of accomplishing something in the rear.

The enemy have large droves of cattle and very large wagon trains, all guarded by infantry. Sometimes large guards and at others small. Negroes report they hung eighteen Confederate soldiers in retaliation for killing theirs, but I can't find out certainly. They say it was done between Wateree Meeting-House and Rocky Mount. I have sent a scout down this side the creek to learn certainly. They burned a great many houses through the country, robbed every one, have caused negroes to take everything they wanted out of houses, and defied the owners to molest them. We yesterday saw a Mrs. Mobly (whose husband is in Second South Carolina Cavalry), an intelligent lady, living in a negro cabin, and her negroes in possession of her clothing, bedding, bacon, &c. I sent a detail and had it all gathered up and returned and her moved to another house. Such is the case wherever they go. A small party could accomplish much for citizens in regulating negroes. I am more than willing to bring up the rear if I can so arrange it as to feed the men, and hope not to be bothered by high waters again. It has rained incessantly and every creek is overflown. The Yankees cleaned out every horse, mule, and cow in their line. Their infantry treat citizens much worse than cavalry. All express the greatest horror at the idea of falling into the hands of Wheeler's cavalry.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, &c.

CHARLOTTE, *February 26, 1865—7.30 a. m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Rockfish Creek, near Wilmington, N. C.:

Should enemy move as supposed the plan proposed is the best, if concentration can be made in time, especially before Sherman and Schofield could unite. Johnston now commands here.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, *February 27, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:
(Via Richmond.)

I have seen Lee's corps, Army of Tennessee, to-day. Effective total, 2,100. Lieutenant-General Hampton reports that Federal prisoners say their army is moving to this point. It is near Lancaster, delayed by bad roads.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 48. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, February 27, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

XL. Paragraph II, General Orders, No. 6, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, February 14, 1865, is hereby revoked and Brig. Gen. Gideon J. Pillow, Provisional Army, C. S., will report to General J. E. Johnston, commanding, &c., for assignment to the duty of collecting and forwarding to proper commands all absentees from the armies of the Confederate States who may be found without the limits of General Johnston's command.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. —. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA., *Cheraw, S. C., February 27, 1865.*

Fiser's brigade, of McLaws' division, will move with a battery of light artillery at daybreak to-morrow morning and take position at Chesterfield. Colonel Fiser will endeavor to get information of the enemy's whereabouts and movements and communicate the same promptly to these headquarters. As there will be no cavalry in his front, he will take every precaution against surprise. Lieutenant Memminger will report with as many mounted men of the signal corps as he can assemble to Colonel Fiser for temporary duty.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

D. H. POOLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. —. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. C., GA., AND FLA., *Cheraw, S. C., February 27, 1865.*

Harrison's brigade, of McLaws' division, will proceed to-morrow morning on the Cheraw and Camden road and take position seven or eight miles from Cheraw. Colonel Harrison will report military information direct to these headquarters. There is no cavalry on that front.

By order of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

D. H. POOLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Abstract from field return of McLaws' division for February 27, 1865.

Command.	Present for duty equipped.		Effective total present.	Total present.	Aggregate present.
	Officers.	Men.			
Fiser's brigade	.....	.....	847	875	932
Harrison's brigade	.....	.....	897	972	1,045
Conner's brigade	.....	.....	1,433	1,486	1,594
Hardy's brigade	.....	.....	750	860	913
Blanchard's brigade	.....	.....	411	448	503
Jones' battalion artillery	.....	.....	296	320	332
Grand total	.....	.....	4,634	4,961	5,319

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
In the Field, February 27, 1865.

Col. J. M. OTEY, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., Charlotte, N. C.:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to make, for the information of General Johnston, the following statement, with reference to the organization, &c., of Lee's corps: When moving from Tupelo, Miss., to Augusta, Ga., Lee's corps, then in hand and in good condition, with about 5,500 muskets, received orders for and made the following changes in its organization, viz: Sharp's and Brantly's brigades, of Johnson's division, were furloughed by organizations and left in that department; nothing heard from them at these headquarters since. Gibson's and Holtzclaw's brigades, of Clayton's division, were transferred with Jackson's and Baker's brigades, the former present with less than 100 muskets; the latter not joined, supposed to be with General Cheatham's column. Cumming's brigade, Stevenson's division, detached at Orangeburg, S. C., to re-enforce General McLaws, under promise from General Hardee that it should be sent by rail to Columbia, is now with General Hardee. Fifty fourth Virginia, Palmer's brigade, Stevenson's division, Forty-second Georgia, Stovall's brigade, Clayton's division, were detached at Rienzi, Miss., as a guard to wagon train to Columbus, Miss.; was ordered thence by water and rail to Augusta; is believed to be with General Cheatham. The artillery of the corps was concentrated at Columbus, Miss., and ordered to move the wheels by water and rail to Augusta, the horses overland. Johnston's battalion, Stevenson's division, were at Macon, Ga., on the 5th instant. The wagon train of the corps and horses of the field officers were ordered from Tupelo, via West Point and Macon, to Augusta, Ga.; were forty miles north of Selma when last heard from.

Strength present.

	Effective.	Total.	Aggregate.
Stevenson's division:			
Pettus' brigade	430	485	602
Palmer's brigade	578	735	855
Johnson's division:			
Deas' brigade	317	318	443
Manigault's brigade	290	309	422
Clayton's division:			
Stovall's brigade	378	412	492
Jackson's brigade	101	122	155
Temporarily attached: Kanapaux's battery	81	84	88
Section Maxwell's battery	32	37	38
Total	2,207	2,502	3,095

The failure to extend to the troops of Georgia, Alabama, and South Carolina, when passing their homes, the same indulgences as had been granted to those of Mississippi, gave much dissatisfaction and caused large numbers to leave the ranks en route. I believe they intended to remain home but a short time and return, but the recent movements of the enemy will prevent them from doing so. A detail of efficient and reliable officers under the charge of an experienced general officer would, I think, collect most of the absentees in a short time. At Tupelo a system of furloughs (one to fifteen) similar to that ordered by General Johnston, at Dalton, was adopted and is now in operation. I respectfully recommend that it be continued until all entitled thereto receive its benefit.

I am, colonel, respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, &c.,
Charlotte, March 5, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded to General Johnston for his information.

Sharp's (Mississippi) brigade (219 effectives) and Brantly's (195 effectives) were furloughed about the 17th of January, to rendezvous at Meridian on the 1st of February, thence to rejoin the corps on the way to Augusta. Baker's (Alabama) brigade (about 600 effectives), long stationed at Mobile, was temporarily transferred with Holtzclaw's (Alabama) brigade (about 500 effectives) to enable the latter to refit and recruit. Jackson's (Georgia) brigade (101 effectives) was temporarily transferred with Gibson's (Louisiana) brigade (262 effectives) to enable them to recruit in their respective States. At the time these transfers were made Lee's corps only was expected to have been sent east. Now that Cheatham's corps has been ordered in the same direction, Jackson's brigade will necessarily have to return to its proper command, while Gibson's brigade will remain detached until it can be returned by Lieutenant-General Taylor, who was authorized to keep it (as well as Sharp's and Brantly's brigades, should he require them), on allowing Stewart's corps, except French's division, to come east, for he had been authorized by the President to retain, if necessary, this corps, *i. e.*, the old Mississippi army, which General Taylor allowed to depart provided he could retain the brigades already named, *i. e.*, Gibson's, Sharp's, and Brantly's. A ten days' furlough was granted at Tupelo, by General Hood (with my approval), to those Mississippi troops, because they would have had to wait several days for railroad transportation to Montgomery, whilst by allowing them to rendezvous at Meridian, on the 1st February, they could visit their homes to refit themselves and be at Augusta nearly as soon as the rest of the command, which would have been the case, probably, had not General Taylor found it necessary to retain them as already stated in the place of General Stewart's corps, less French's division. The recommendation that a detail of efficient and reliable officers be sent to collect absentees is approved and has been ordered. The system of furloughs adopted or ordered at Tupelo is also approved and should be carried out.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Charlotte, February 27, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: In reply to your letter of yesterday General Beauregard directs me to say that he has ordered General Stevenson to send you a section of 12-pounder howitzers, if possible; and, if not, a section of Napoleons, since the Blakely guns have no equipment or ammunition, and, furthermore, since the ammunition cannot be obtained this side of Richmond. The railroad bridge will admit of dismounted cavalry crossing in single rank, but, owing to its construction, it will not admit of being floored. Young's cavalry has been ordered, as General Beauregard is informed, to operate from Augusta in the direction of Columbia. However, if it can cross the Santee you are authorized to order it to report to you. I inclose you a copy of the last letter from Lieutenant-General Hardee for your information.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 27, 1865—7 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Fort Mills, S. C.:

Those two pieces are without artillerists and horses. Shall I send them as they are? Answer.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
Near Nation Ford, S. C., February 27, 1865—11 a. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that I am crossing my command over the railroad bridge at this point as rapidly as possible. I learn that I shall have to go up to Morrow's Station in order to get over the streams between this and Lancaster, as the creeks are swollen and deep. I have already lost much ammunition by swimming creeks. I think it best not to undertake to swim those between this point and Lancaster. After crossing Sugar Creek I shall move toward Lancaster, or so as to join you. Please send a courier to meet me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
Near Morrow's Station, N. C., February 27, 1865—6 p. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that I have been compelled to pass through Morrow's Station in order to cross Sugar Creek.

I shall move down the Lancaster road at an early hour to-morrow morning for the purpose of rejoining the corps. I shall send out scouts to-night to learn where the enemy is, and also where corps headquarters are.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS BUTLER'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
February 27, 1865—12.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Commanding Troops Near Society Hill and Cheraw:

GENERAL: I encountered the Fifteenth Army Corps, General Logan commanding, at Tiller's Bridge this morning, engaged them, and captured some prisoners. Their foragers have extended from the river as far as Kellytown, where I am now encamped. On the 24th the Fifteenth Corps, leading the enemy's advance, moved from Flat Rock, in Kershaw District, and encamped near Porter's Bridge, on Little Lynch's Creek. The Seventeenth Corps was then moving from the Catawba River above Liberty Hill toward Flat Rock. The Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps at that date were in rear of the other two corps. The general movement of Sherman's forces at that time was understood to be upon Camden, which, I presume, was occupied on the 23d and 24th. The Fifteenth Corps, which has been encamped on the south side of Lynch's Creek for two days, seems to have halted to await the arrival of the other three corps. Their next movement will probably be developed to-morrow, whether on Cheraw or toward Florence I have not been able to form any definite conclusion. I think that if our troops were concentrated now and thrown rapidly upon the Fifteenth Corps very serious damage may be inflicted. If the enemy turn down Lynch's Creek I will endeavor to cross over into Sumter District and get in front of them. I should be glad to have all the available mounted men sent to me as soon as possible. It is very desirable that some force be sent to hold the bridges on Lynch's Creek and the country between that stream and the Pedee River, so that I may be able to effect the withdrawal of my command from Sumter or Williamsburg District. I have not been in communication with General Hampton or General Beauregard since the 21st instant. After leaving Winnsborough I was ordered to attempt to reach the rear of the enemy, who was then moving on Chester, the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps on the east side of the railroad constituting his Right Wing, and the Fourteenth and Twentieth, his Left Wing, on the west side. The enemy changed direction on the 21st toward the Catawba River and Camden. I have been on his left flank ever since. Prisoners taken on the 23d report Sherman's army to have only five days' rations, and were moving toward Wilmington or Georgetown. He has been foraging very extensively along his line of march, no house within reach of his main column has been passed by, and all supplies have been taken from the inhabitants by foraging parties of infantry mounted on captured horses.

Respectfully,

M. C. BUTLER,
Major-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *February 27, 1865.*

General BRAGG, or
General HOKE,
Goldsborough:

I have received orders to report at Richmond with my entire command. I shall leave at once with those here. Will you order Lieutenant-Commander Evans, with his detachment, to report at Richmond also?

J. R. TUCKER,
Flag Officer, C. S. Navy.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
February 27, 1865.

General HOKE,
Commanding Third District:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that all men belonging to Lieutenant Bain's signal corps, not detailed by authority superior to that of the commander of this department, be immediately returned to their companies, if these are in your district. Their horses, if public property, will be turned over to your chief quartermaster. The remainder of the signal corps you can employ to the best advantage.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *February 27, 1865.*

General BRAGG:

Should cotton and naval stores be destroyed in front of a raiding party near the river? Should they be destroyed at Fayetteville factories before any force of the enemy too large to be successfully resisted?

F. L. CHILDS,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

FEBRUARY 27, 1865.

Lieutenant-Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville:

What rolling-stock is there on railroad from Fayetteville to Coal Fields? Impress negroes sufficient to conduct work of obstructing river, which should be pushed vigorously. Captain Winder will be sent to you. Strange's company cannot be spared.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *February 27, 1865.*

Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Goldsborough:

Rolling-stock on Western Railroad—2 locomotives, 2 coaches, 3 box-cars, 13 flat, and 12 dirt cars. Lieutenant Ashe, at Elizabeth, attending to obstructions.

F. L. CHILDS,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

RALEIGH, *February 27, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

I have two regiments of detailed men that I can call into service if you desire. Please inform me of your wishes.

TH. H. HOLMES,
Lieutenant-General.

CONCORD, *February 27, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

Bad management of railroad. Thirty-eight hours to this place and no prospect of getting on; two trains at this place waiting orders to move.

W. F. AVENT,
Major, &c.

CHARLOTTE, *February 28, 1865.*

Hon. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War, Richmond:

I respectfully urge that four months' pay be immediately given to the troops of this department, and a small part in specie to each private, and that the money be sent to Major Deslonde—four months for 20,000 men.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

CHARLOTTE, *February 28, 1865.*

Hon. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War, Richmond:

The Navy Department has a quantity of coffee here. It would be very valuable to our troops. I suggest its transfer.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

CHERAW, *February 28, 1865—12 m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: Since my dispatch to you yesterday I learn from Major General Butler that the Seventeenth Army Corps crossed yesterday at Young's Bridge, on Lynch's Creek, and that the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps are marching on this place. His dispatch was dated at 6 p. m. yesterday at Kellytown. General Butler stated his intention of moving last night, so as to get between Cheraw and the enemy. I regret to state that the troops I mentioned as being in rear, and which I expected here last night with the artillery, have not arrived. There has been no arrival of trains since yesterday afternoon. I have sent down an engine to learn the cause. I do not apprehend that the road is cut, but that there has been some collision I have no doubt. This road, like all others in the Confederacy, is wretchedly managed. With proper management I ought to have had everything here by this time. I have serious apprehensions that the troops in rear will not reach here before I am compelled to evacuate the place. This matter gives me serious concern, but I have the satisfaction of feeling that I have used

every exertion and taken every precaution to insure their safety. A rapid march of the enemy will bring him here to-morrow. If he takes the direct road to this place I shall oppose him at Thompson's Creek.

With high respect, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

Since writing a train with troops has arrived and I have reason to hope that those behind, the track being now open, will soon be here.

W. J. H.

CHARLOTTE, *February 28, 1865.*

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE, *Raleigh:*

Should Sherman come this way I recommend the neighborhood of Danville. Should he turn toward Fayetteville, Salisbury would be safe.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 49. } *Richmond, February 28, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

IX. Capt. T. H. Jordan, assistant adjutant-general, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to duty with W. W. Allen's brigade (Col. James Hagan commanding), of Wheeler's cavalry corps. He will report to General Joseph E. Johnston, at Charlotte, N. C.

* * * * * * *

XI. Maj. J. B. Dorman, assistant adjutant-general, Provisional Army, C. S., now on duty at Camp of Instruction, near this city, is assigned to duty with Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, at Augusta, Ga., and will report accordingly.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SCAIFE'S FERRY, S. C.,
February 28, 1865—4.50 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. A. P. STEWART,
Commanding Army of Tennessee:

GENERAL: I have just arrived at the ferry. I find the river so full that it is very difficult to cross, there being no means of crossing but by poling the flat. I send a scout across the river and go to work to prepare oars for the purpose of rowing across. I shall not be able to cross my squadron to-night. I see citizens directly from Chesterville, who report no enemy between here and that place, nor near there. All reports seem to concur that the enemy is crossing the Catawba River at and below Rocky Mount, while our forces are crossing above that point. This is only current rumor and not definite. I will report again as soon as I hear from the scouts sent out.

Very respectfully, &c.,

D. W. BIZZELL,
Captain, Commanding Third Arkansas Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 28, 1865. (Received 10.30.)

General B. BRAGG,
Goldsborough, N. C.:

Keep advised of Johnston's route. Communicate with General Johnston at Charlotte. Unite with him as you propose for a blow on Sherman when practicable.

R. E. LEE,
General.

FEBRUARY 28, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Charlotte:*

Following just from Colonel Childs, Fayetteville:

I learn from General Hardee the enemy crossed Lynch's Creek in some force at Tillersville. Intention not yet developed; that their movements point at present to Darlington and Florence, with the view, he believes, of moving to Wilmington.

Childs learns through pickets enemy are repairing Brunswick railroad bridge on Wilmington and Manchester Railroad. I have ordered him to have bridges and railroad below Lumberton destroyed; also on Wilmington and Manchester Railroad from Pedee up.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 28, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Commanding Department of North Carolina, Goldsborough:

GENERAL: The campaign of the army under General Johnston is so rapidly culminating to the decisive point that I greatly desire, if I am to join it at all, to enter upon my duties there immediately. As Colonel Sale, commissioned in the Adjutant-General's Department and under orders to report here, can now join you without inconvenience, and as Major Parker possesses a competent knowledge of the details of business, I feel warranted in saying that my place could be supplied without detriment to the public interests, and I therefore respectfully ask that you give me the order indicated by General Lee. Having already explained that the motive for this request is one of professional advancement, growing out of views of the functions of the general staff which I know you also entertain, I have only to add that I have never had more agreeable and instructive service than at your headquarters, and that I shall always retain the most grateful recollection of your kindness and of the confidential intercourse with which you have honored me.

I am, general, with great respect, your faithful, obliged servant,
ARCHER ANDERSON.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.,
February 28, 1865—1.30 p. m. (Received 6.35.)

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Rocky Point, near Wilmington, N. C.:

As Fayetteville may be our future point of concentration, will you order all roads and bridges repaired forthwith to it from Warsaw, Smithfield, and Raleigh?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *February 28, 1865.*

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Raleigh:

Join me here, leaving your records with Mr. Scott. Who is commanding now in Raleigh?

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RALEIGH, *February 28, 1865.*

General BRAGG:

Your dispatch of to-day just received. Col. F. M. Parker, Thirtieth North Carolina Regiment, commands here. I will join you on the 2d.

JOHN B. SALE,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 28, 1865.

Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Dispatch received. Will be attended to. Please have all mail for my command sent to Teachey's Depot.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Duplin Road, February 28, 1865. (Received 8.45 p. m.)

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Goldsborough:

One of my scouts just returned. The other has gone into Wilmington. The enemy have crossed troops to the opposite side of Cape Fear; camps are considerable. No boats have been up the river. Evidences of a march up Cape Fear on opposite side. Will inform you fully when other scouts return. Engines and cars on Manchester road.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Duplin Road, February 28, 1865. (Received 11 p. m.)

Colonel ANDERSON,
Goldsborough:

If Sherman continued to his right he would soon get to a point on the Manchester road, and having stock on that road could soon throw his troops to Wilmington from this point. He could demonstrate into the interior and throw his troops to Grant. I know nothing of his movements, and only suggest this, thinking that Grant might suppose he could overwhelm General Lee by overwhelming numbers.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

FEBRUARY 28, 1865.

Colonel THRUSTON, *Company's Shops:*

General Bragg wishes you to induce people there to volunteer temporarily for special defense of shops against raid, and include in organization all detailed men on railroad.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COMPANY'S SHOPS,
February 28, 1865. (Received 6.45.)

Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Goldsborough:

No local force here except exempts, which I have no authority to control. No detailed men here. Telegraph me instructions. No answer from telegram yesterday on same subject.

S. D. THRUSTON,
Colonel, Commanding.

FEBRUARY 28, 1865.

Colonel CHILDS, *Fayetteville:*

Keep Ashe. Authority is given to impress horses for pickets. General Bragg directs you destroy trestle on railroad below Lumberton, and be in readiness to burn bridge over Lumber River on approach of enemy. Destroy any part of road below Lumberton you can.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *February 28, 1865.*

Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I learn from General Hardee the enemy crossed Lynch's Creek in some force at Tillersville. Intention not yet developed; that their movements point at present to Darlington and Florence, with the view, he believes, of moving to Wilmington.

F. L. CHILDS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

FAYETTEVILLE, *February 28, 1865.*

Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I learn through pickets that the enemy are repairing Brunswick railroad bridge, on the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad.

F. L. CHILDS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

FEBRUARY 28, 1865.

Colonel CHILDS, *Fayetteville:*

General Bragg directs that as much of railway below Lumberton as possible be immediately destroyed; also bridges over Pedee, Little Pedee, and Lumber Rivers, on Wilmington and Manchester Railroad,

and all trestle-work from Pedee up. Organize small parties of determined men to do this instantly. Best way to destroy trestle is to cut away both ends with axes; rest falls. Report your arrangements for this work.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 28, 1865—1 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Fort Mills, S. C.:

Wheeler's division of cavalry and wagons, if sent to Nation Ford, could cross on cars. Let me know when these may be required.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 28, 1865—10.30 p. m.*

Lieut. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Fort Mills, S. C.:

Butler writes from Kellytown on the 27th that Fifteenth Corps was encamped at Porter's Bridge, on Little Lynch's Creek, since 24th. Other corps thence toward Camden, intending doubtless to march on Cheraw or Florence. Prisoners say they have only five days' rations and they are moving toward Wilmington or Georgetown. Your letter to Sherman is approved.*

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 28, 1865.

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: I avail myself of the earliest opportunity to offer you, in behalf of the State, my thanks for the defense of the town of Aiken, and the protection given in that defense to the population of that town. To be saved, as was that town and its population, from the ruthless foes by which it was attacked calls not only for the thanks of those immediately exposed, but to the grateful remembrance of all classes of our citizens. To you, and through you to that portion of your command which participated in the conflict for the possession of Aiken, I tender you the thanks of the State.

I am, general, respectfully, &c.,

A. G. MAGRATH.

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, March 1, 1865.

Hon. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War:

From information received this morning I fear the answer I sent you as to sending letters through without material delay to the southwest may require correction. I am now informed that the gauge of the rail-

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* See p. 596.

road between Charlotte and Greensborough is being changed, and that the trains will not run through for some days. I mention this so that you may provide for any communications requiring special dispatch, as we cannot organize a line of postal communication in time to meet this necessity.

Very respectfully,

JOHN H. REAGAN,
Postmaster-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., March 1, 1865.

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE,
Raleigh, N. C.:

MY DEAR SIR: General Lee has written to me in regard to desertions from the army, and states that, while they occur among the troops from every State, they are most numerous just at present from those of North Carolina. This must spring from the importunity of friends at home, and I know of nothing that can be done, in addition to the means already employed, except to improve the condition of public feeling in the several States. I send you a line, not to stimulate you—far from it, for I have read your recent speech at Goldsborough—but to apprise you that the evil is alarming, and to urge you to invoke every influence that can be brought to bear to revive a patriotic and self-sacrificing spirit. I will write also to the authorities and to individuals in other States. The numbers furnished and the deeds performed by the troops of North Carolina forbid the belief that she will give way at this crisis of a hard-pressed cause. I will be happy to hear from you at any time, and am, yours, very truly,

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

[MARCH 1, 1865.—For Lee to Breckinridge, relating to operations in the Carolinas, see Part I, p. 1044.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., March 1, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Charlotte, N. C.:

Your dispatch with regard to funds received. Impossible to obtain money at present. Will write to you to-night.

J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., March 1, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I received this morning and answered your telegram of the 28th ultimo in regard to money for payment of your troops. The occupation of Columbia by the enemy and other causes have embarrassed

the operations of the Treasury Note Bureau; but, aside from this difficulty, I am sorry to say that the Secretary of the Treasury is wholly unable to meet the requisitions of this Department. The arrears are enormous, and I am not stating the case too strongly when I say that the War Department in all its branches is almost wholly paralyzed for want of means. A full and plain statement has been submitted to the President, and by him to the Congress. This is written for your own information only, and to show that nothing remains for the present, except to make the best of the circumstances in which we are placed. You may rely on my cordial co-operation in providing everything possible for your army. I will try to secure from the Secretary of the Navy the coffee mentioned in your dispatch of this date.*

With great respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

CHARLOTTE, *March 1, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:

Your letter of 23d February received. Lieutenant-General Hardee's infantry, but not his artillery and wagons, has reached Cheraw. The enemy has been stationary for a few days. Our cavalry on their right think them moving toward Florence or Cheraw; that on their left think they will come this way or go to Cheraw. I have no information of the progress of Stewart and Cheatham.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

CHARLOTTE, *March 1, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
General-in-Chief:

GENERAL: I had the honor to receive your letter of the 23d ultimo last night, and to acknowledge it by telegraph this morning. The general views you express strengthen my hopes greatly. Lieutenant-General Hampton reported the enemy's cavalry about Lancaster yesterday, and the Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps six miles south of that point. He thinks their course probably toward Charlotte, possibly Cheraw. Major-General Butler, writing on the previous day, reports the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps on the south side of Little Lynch's Creek, and the Fourteenth and Twentieth close in their rear. He thinks the U. S. army moving on Florence, or perhaps Cheraw. The route by Charlotte, Greensborough, and Danville is very difficult now, as you remark. It would also leave your army exactly between those of General Grant and General Sherman. It seems to me, therefore, that he, General Sherman, ought not to take it. His junction with General Schofield is also an object important enough, I should think, to induce him to keep more to the east. Such a course would also render his junction with General Grant easier. I don't know how we can "remove or destroy all kinds of supplies on the enemy's route." We are compelled to leave in the houses of the inhabitants the food necessary for their subsistence, but the U. S. officers feel no such obligation. The route by which Stewart's and Cheatham's corps are expected lies west of the railroad through Chester. I am anxious to unite them with Hardee's troops, if possible, before any movement by the latter. These forces

* See February 28, p. 1290.

united may impede the march of the Federal army, and even find opportunities to strike heavy blows, or at least prevent it from gathering food. Would it be possible to hold Richmond itself with half your army, while the other half joined us near Roanoke to crush Sherman? We might then turn upon Grant. Would it not be well to instruct General Bragg to keep me advised of his movements? I shall inform him of mine and those of the enemy near me.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 1, 1865.*

Sketch of Plan of Operations for the Spring Campaign of 1865.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Department, &c., Charlotte, N. C.:

Sherman's ultimate objective point is doubtless Richmond, before which he expects to form a junction with Grant, forcing General Lee either to evacuate Virginia or to accept battle at great disadvantage, and with certain defeat by superior numbers. His intermediate objective points are possibly Fayetteville, and certainly Raleigh and Petersburg. His present position (at or near Camden, S. C.) and movements indicate a purpose to avoid Charlotte and to move on Fayetteville, either directly, or through Wilmington by way of Cheraw or Florence, effecting a junction with Schofield from Wilmington, whose force is about 15,000 men. I estimate Sherman's force at not exceeding 35,000 men, exclusive of 4,000 cavalry. This plan of campaign may be signally foiled.

First. The troops now concentrating under Hardee at Cheraw, some 10,000 infantry and light artillery, in conjunction with the cavalry under Hampton, should oppose Sherman's advance, and do all possible to delay his march, making an obstinate defense of the line of the Pedee, for a time at least.

Second. The forces at Charlotte, about 6,000 infantry and light artillery, should be sent by rail via Raleigh to Smithfield, N. C., as soon as Sherman's movements are uncovered so clearly as to indicate his line of march to be the one anticipated.

Third. From Smithfield this force should march at the proper moment and form a junction at or in advance of Fayetteville with Hardee, who would fall back gradually before Sherman.

Fourth. Bragg should retire from his present position—about Fish [Rockfish] Creek, near Wilmington—by railroad to Warsaw, and march thence to Fayetteville (forty-seven miles), so as to reach that place at the same time with the troops from Charlotte. He should cover or conceal his movement from Schofield by his cavalry and a strong line of skirmishers, and some light artillery, which may be sacrificed, if necessary. By these means there would be assembled at Fayetteville—

Hardee's corps (infantry and artillery)	10,000
Army of Tennessee	6,000
Bragg's forces	10,000
Infantry and artillery	26,000

But Sherman will have a well disciplined and organized army of 35,000 men, flushed with a series of successes, to cope with which, especially in the present condition of our forces, we should have at

least an equal number of men. The deficiency of some 9,000 men can only be drawn in season for the emergency from General Lee's army, and I would urge that that number of men be held ready to be detached for the service, in time to effect a junction with the other troops to be concentrated at Fayetteville. We could then confidently attack Sherman, expect to destroy his army, and be left free at once to effect a junction with General Lee with all our forces, except perhaps Bragg's corps, which might be required to watch Schofield. We could then attack Grant with superior numbers, and defeat him signally. Should Sherman, however, be able to effect a junction with Schofield, he will then have about 50,000 men, a force which would be too large to contend with, as arranged in the foregoing sketch. In such a contingency I can see no other means of preventing the complete attainment of the main objects of Sherman's campaign than by the prompt evacuation of our lines at Petersburg, and the occupation of those, prepared for such an emergency, around Richmond, and by detaching 25,000 men to unite with the force already in North Carolina, and give immediate battle to Sherman, which could be done with almost certain decisive success. After which the whole army should be hastened back to Virginia to raise the siege of Richmond. Present events tending to force the evacuation of Richmond, it would seem a necessary part of the strategy of the campaign that the Confederate States Government should be previously removed to some point that would free the army from the necessity of protecting it, and thus at the same time diminish the importance which the enemy attaches to Richmond as the capital of the Confederate States.

Respectfully submitted.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 1, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. G. J. RAINS,
Chief Torpedo Bureau:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that as per your order I reported at the headquarters of General Beaureguard on the 12th ultimo, for duty with subterra shells. General Hampton, with whom I was assigned for service, desired me to embed a causeway, eleven miles below Columbia, which he said was the only passage for the enemy there, as an impenetrable morass lay on either side. With all possible dispatch I made ready for the work, and had all things in readiness by 7 a. m. on the day following, at which time Major Rhett, the quartermaster of the post, had promised transportation should be furnished. The hour came, and three successive hours, but no transportation, Major R. stating that all his wagons were employed in sending stores beyond the enemy's reach. By 12 o'clock I received the loan of a lady's ambulance and hurried to the front, but the causeway by that time had fallen into the hands of the enemy, and Columbia soon followed. General Hampton furnished me with two excellent horses, but had no wagon. This, however, was after the city was abandoned. He is now wanting me with him, but nothing can be done without means. From Columbia to Camden has been such a field for the work that I return heart-sick at nothing being done. Much may yet be done between Camden and Raleigh, Wilmington, or what point soever the enemy may be destined for. Give me the following and I ask for no more: A light, strong spring-wagon, with water-proof cover; two good horses and a driver; a good horse, bridle, and saddle for sentinel; a pick or grub-

bing-hoe. With these very much may be done. I repeat, General Hampton is desirous that I be with him to operate, appreciating as he does, and particularly at this time, the value of our means of defense. If possible, let me be furnished to-day with what I need, that I may go at once to the front.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

GARNETT McMILLAN,
Captain, in Charge Subterra Defenses.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
April 1, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded.

Captain McMillan reported to me for duty on the 15th February and I directed him to place his shells on a causeway five miles below Columbia. Before he could reach this point the enemy had possession of it. The shells there would have impeded their march on that road, but would not have seriously delayed them. They did not reach Columbia until the 17th and I do not think any serious damage could have been inflicted on them by these subterra shells. I gave an ambulance to Captain McMillan and directed him to remain near my headquarters. On the 18th my wagons were sent to the rear by General Beauregard and I have never seen ambulance or shells since, and Captain McMillan but once, in Chesterville, from which place he telegraphed to Richmond for a supply of dart torpedoes (I think he called them). He was to get these and to rejoin me, but I have not seen or heard of him since. I do not think the quartermaster at Columbia was to blame for not furnishing transportation, as I know that everything was engaged in moving public stores. Nor do I think the result at Columbia would have been different had all of Captain McMillan's shells been placed in position.

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 1, 1865—7.30 a. m*

Lieut. Gen. WADE HAMPTON,
Near Lancaster, S. C.:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 28th ultimo was received last night. I approve of your order to that vandal Sherman. The system of retaliation must be carried out at any cost. I have ordered you a section of two howitzers or Napoleons with eight horses to the pieces, which is the best we can do. Captain Hart's artillery is at Salisbury, but cannot get here owing to obstructions on railroad; it has no horses with it. The railroad bridge across the Catawba is guarded by infantry and artillery; it must be saved if possible, for our communications with Columbia must be re-established as soon as practicable. General Young's division has been ordered to join you as soon as possible via the crossings of the Santee. No exchange of prisoners can take place. General Wheeler's arrangements cannot now be approved; the enemy has allowed too much time to elapse for an answer. Everything possible will be done to procure arms, saddles, and bridles for Butler's command, but I fear not much success can be hoped for. It is important that your cavalry should be in front of the enemy to delay his advance eastwardly. Brigadier-General Robertson's command has been ordered (through General Hardee) to report to Butler General Hardee's forces are concentrating at Cheraw with orders to defend the crossings of the

Great Pedee on the way to Fayetteville and Wilmington, if the latter can be done without endangering his command, which is required for future operations. If Sherman has only five days' rations he should be delayed by all practicable means, to prevent him from reaching a point where he can supply himself from the sea; hence the roads to Georgetown should be blockaded and defended to the last extremity. Brigadier-General Robertson is now operating in that direction to prevent any advance from the sea coast and guard the Northeastern Railroad.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

P. S.—Five hundred saddles with 1,000 sabers are on the way to you from Richmond.

G. T. B.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
March 1, 1865.

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your communication in reference to the movement of the enemy's cavalry. He desires to know if you cannot ascertain what is in your front on this road; whether there has been any change in the pickets, &c. He would desire to obtain this information before morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 1, 1865—7.35 a. m.

Maj. H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: Your dispatch of March 1 this moment received. I have taken measures to ascertain what there is in our front. You desired the information before morning and fear your dispatch has been delayed.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

[MARCH 1, 1865.—For Wheeler to McClellan (three dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, pp. 1122, 1123.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD ALABAMA CAVALRY,
March 1, 1865.

Lieut. A. H. SMITH,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have sent two scouts to-night in the direction of the Rocky River road, and they report the enemy in force this side of the road above mentioned, also the Tenth Confederate has just come in and reports the same. It is impossible for a scout to get to the road to-night.

Respectfully,

JO. ROBINS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, near Wilson's Store, March 2, 1865—7.30 a. m.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding corps.

W. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 17. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 1, 1865.

In publishing General Orders, Nos. 2 and 3, from the headquarters C. S. Armies, the commanding general desires to explain that the time allowed absentees in this department to return or report themselves as therein directed, begins to run from the date of this order (March 1), and that the pardon embraces offenses committed prior to this date. All men of the classes pardoned under sentence, or awaiting trial, will be immediately released.

By order of General Bragg:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 1, 1865.

The pardon offered in General Orders, Nos. 2 and 3, from the general-in-chief, extends to all men now in confinement under charges or sentence for desertion or absence without leave, with the exceptions therein indicated.

By order of General Bragg:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 1, 1865.*

General HOKE,
Rockfish Creek:

To delay Sherman, should he move toward Wilmington, it will be well for you to have both Manchester and Charlotte roads cut, and bridges and trestles destroyed at every point. All enemy's prisoners will probably have passed here by to-morrow. You must then be prepared for Schofield's movements. Have roads reconnoitered and repaired from your present position and from Warsaw to Fayetteville.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 1, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE,
Rockfish:

Lieutenant Fairly reports a bluff, called Black Rock, twenty-eight miles above Wilmington, which General Whiting considered it practicable to blow into the river, thus obstructing the channel. General Bragg desires you will look to this and have it done if practicable.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 1, 1865.*

Colonel FREMONT, *Magnolia:*

Captain Darden, quartermaster, Weldon, telegraphs great need of trains to haul forage to Stony Creek. Please do what is proper.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 1, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES, *Raleigh:*

Please send some officer to examine and have repaired road from Raleigh to Fayetteville. Country people should be invoked to make necessary repairs.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 1, 1865.*

Colonel CHILDS, *Fayetteville:*

General Hoke's scouts report enemy moving up west bank of Cape Fear. Communicate to General Hardee.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 1, 1865.*

Lieutenant-Colonel CHILDS, *Fayetteville:*

All cotton or naval stores and other stores serviceable to enemy must be destroyed when danger is imminent of their falling into enemy's hands. Proper preparations should be made now for such an emergency.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RICHMOND, VA., *March 1, 1865.*

Col. JAMES PHELAN, *Meridian, Miss.:*

I received your friendly letter of the 17th of January only about a week ago, and do not see that I can answer it more appropriately than by sending you the annexed copy of a paper which I had prepared for transmission to Congress. As it would, however, have been necessary to accompany it, if sent, with a protest against any Congressional interference with the function, exclusively executive, of assigning officers to command, I determined to withhold it rather than, under existing circumstances, to send it to Congress with such a protest as I should have felt bound to make. The paper will fully explain my views and position in the matter. I may add that since the accompanying paper was written General Lee has asked that General Johnston should be ordered to report to him for duty, and that I have complied with his wish in the hope that General Johnston's soldierly qualities may be made serviceable to his country when acting under General Lee's orders, and that in his new position those defects which I found manifested by him when serving as an independent commander will be remedied by the control of the general-in-chief.

Very truly and respectfully, yours, &c.,

JEFF'N DAVIS.

[Inclosure.]

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., February 18, 1865.

The joint resolution of Congress and other manifestations of a desire that General Joseph E. Johnston should be restored to the command of the Army of Tennessee have been anxiously considered by me, and it is with sincere regret that I find myself unable to gratify what I must believe to have become quite a general desire of my countrymen. The expression of this desire has come to me in forms so imposing and from sources so fully entitled to my respect and confidence that I feel it to be due to the people, to justice, and to myself to take the unusual step of discussing matters which would otherwise for public consideration have been passed over in silence, and of presenting the reasons which make it impossible for me to assign him again to an important and independent command.

At the commencement of the present war there were few persons in the Confederacy who entertained a more favorable opinion of General Johnston as a soldier than I did. I knew him to be brave and well informed in his profession. I believed that he possessed high capacity for becoming a successful commander in the field. Our relations under the former Government were of a friendly nature and so continued in the new sphere of duty opened to both by the change in the political condition of the country. At different times during the war I have given to General Johnston three very important commands, and in each case experience has revealed the fact that with the high qualities above referred to as possessed by him are united defects which unfit him for the conduct of a campaign. When he was relieved from command in July last it was believed that this action on my part would be accepted in its plain and only real significance, as an indication that his conduct of the campaign was disapproved, and that apprehension was entertained that the grave losses already sustained would be followed by still further disasters if he continued in command. Any criticism on this action, however harsh and unjust to me personally, I was prepared to bear in the same silence which the interest of my country has imposed on me, as a duty, in many other instances during the war. The disclosure of the ground of my conduct it would have been preferable to postpone to a future and more fitting occasion. But it has recently been apparent that there exists in some quarters a purpose, not simply to criticise the past, but to arraign me before the bar of public opinion, and to compel me to do what my judgment and conscience disapproved, or to destroy my power of usefulness by undermining the confidence of my fellow-citizens. It is better to lose that confidence than to retain it at the expense of truth and duty. Yet no man can conduct public affairs with success in a Government like ours unless upheld by the trust and willing aid of the people. I have determined, therefore, now to make the disclosure of the causes which have forced on me the unpleasant duty of declining to gratify the desire of a large portion of the people, as well as the expressed wish of Congress.

General Johnston, on his entering into the Confederate service, was assigned to the command of the Army of the Valley of Virginia, which was then confronted by the enemy in position on the north side of the Potomac. At Harper's Ferry there was a large quantity of materials and machinery for the manufacture of small-arms of the greatest value to the Confederacy. Their removal to places of greater safety was commenced as soon as the necessary arrangements could be made. During the progress of the work General Johnston insisted upon the evacuation

of the place, and finally retired from it, as I then thought, and still think, prematurely. The correctness of this opinion is sufficiently shown by the fact that after his withdrawal the working party remained without interruption by the enemy, and removed much valuable property, including the heaviest part of the machinery. When General Beauregard was threatened at Manassas by a large column of the enemy, his numerical inferiority and the inactivity of the enemy in the Valley, under General Patterson, evinced the necessity, propriety, and practicability of a prompt march of our Valley army to his aid. General Johnston made serious objections to and expressed doubts as to the practicability of such a movement; and only after repeated and urgent instructions did he move to make the junction proposed. The delay thus occasioned retarded the arrival of the head of his column until after the first conflict had occurred, and prevented a part of his troops from getting into position until the victory had been won. Indeed, we were only saved from a fatal defeat at the battle of Manassas by the promptness of General E. Kirby Smith, who, acting without orders, and moving by a change of direction, succeeded in reaching the battle-field in time to avert disaster. After the battle the forces of General Johnston and General Beauregard remained united. General Johnston, who was in command of the combined forces, constantly declared his inability to assume offensive operations unless furnished with re-enforcements, which, as he was several times informed, the Government was unable to supply, and in the fall of 1861 put his troops in intrenched lines covering Centerville.

During the winter he declared that his position was so insecure that it must be abandoned before the enemy could advance, but indicated no other line of defense as the proper one. He was therefore summoned to Richmond in February, 1862, for conference. On inquiry into the character of his position at Centerville he stated that his lines there were untenable, but when asked what new position he proposed to occupy, declared himself ignorant of the topography of the country in his rear. This confession was a great shock to my confidence in him. That a general should have been for many months in command of an army, should have selected a line which he himself considered untenable, and should not have ascertained the topography of the country in his rear, was inexplicable on any other theory than that he had neglected the primary duty of a commander. Engineers were sent by me from Richmond to examine the country and to supply him with the requisite information. General Johnston had announced, however, that his position was favorable as a point from which to advance, if he could be re-enforced. It was, therefore, agreed that he should mobilize his army by sending to the rear all heavy guns and all supplies and luggage, so as to be able to advance or retreat, as occasion might require. The Government was soon afterward surprised by learning that General Johnston had commenced a hasty retreat without giving notice of an intention to do so, though he had just been apprised of the improved prospect of re-enforcing him, and of the hope entertained by me that he would thus be enabled to assume the offensive. The retreat was without molestation or even demonstration from the enemy, but was conducted with such precipitation as to involve a heavy loss of supplies. Some valuable artillery was abandoned, a large depot of provisions was burned, blankets, shoes, and saddles were committed to the flames, and this great sacrifice of property was so wanting in apparent justification as to produce a painful impression on the public mind, and to lead to an inquiry by a committee from Congress, which began an investigation into the subject, but did not report before Congress adjourned.

During his retreat General Johnston telegraphed to Richmond to ask at what point he should stop, and afterward admitted on conference the same want of topographical information previously confessed. When the enemy, instead of pursuing General Johnston in his rapid retreat, changed their base to Fortress Monroe, and made the York River and the Peninsula their line of approach, he was ordered to Yorktown with his army, where General Magruder had for many months been actively constructing defensive works to resist an advance up the Peninsula. General Johnston soon pronounced the position untenable, and made another hasty retreat, and with another heavy loss of munitions and armament. He gave notice of his movement, and of the necessity of evacuating Norfolk to the general in command there only after his own retreat had actually commenced. The Secretaries of War and of the Navy had started (the former to Yorktown, the latter to Norfolk) to prevent a hurried evacuation and the consequent loss of the material of war. Too late to restrain General Johnston, they arrived in Norfolk in time to delay General Huger's compliance with his notice until much valuable property was saved. But Norfolk could not long be held after the Peninsula was in the hands of the enemy, and with it were lost large supplies of all kinds, including machinery which could not be replaced in the Confederacy.

General Johnston halted in his retreat near the Chickahominy, but after spending some days in selecting a position for defense against the advancing enemy, suddenly crossed that stream without notice to the Government and retreated upon Richmond. He remained inactive in front of Richmond, making no intrenchments to cover his position, which might enable him to assume the offensive with the greater part of the army. He again neglected the proper reconnaissances, and failed to have the roads laid down on topographical maps—a want of foresight sorely felt by our army, when afterward, under General Lee, endeavoring to cut off McClellan's retreat. He suffered the enemy to bring up their heavy guns, supplies, and troops, without molestation; to build bridges across the Chickahominy, and to cross a portion of their army and make intrenchments, not only without resistance, but without his knowledge of these important military operations. When, on a sudden freshet in the Chickahominy, a body of the enemy's troops was found to be on this side of the stream, an attack was made under the impression that they were cut off by the flood fromre-enforcements and entirely at our mercy. The battle was disastrous, because the enemy was rapidly re-enforced across bridges the existence of which had not been ascertained by our commander, and because our troops attacked an enemy whom they did not know to be intrenched, and assailed the front of a position which might have been easily turned by cross-roads which were in constant use by the people of the neighborhood, but which were unknown to our officers. The general fell severely wounded in this engagement, in which he was conspicuous for personal daring. But this gallantry could not redeem the want of that foresight which is requisite for a commander, and the battle was, as I have said, a failure. His wound rendered him unfit for further service in the field for some months, and terminated his first important command, which he had administered in a manner to impair my confidence in his fitness to conduct a campaign for a Government possessed of only very limited material resources, and whose armies are numerically so inferior to those of the enemy as to demand from its generals the greatest vigilance and activity, the best discipline and organization, with careful provision and rigid economy. The loss of supplies

during the time he was in command had been great, and our difficulties for the want of them so distressing as to cripple our military operations to a far greater extent than can be appreciated.

On General Johnston's fall General Lee assumed the command of the army. He at once made an intrenched line by which the city could be covered with part of his forces, and was thus enabled to cross the Chickahominy with the main body, and, with the aid of the troops from the Valley, under General Jackson, to attack the enemy in flank and rear, achieving the series of glorious victories in the summer of 1862, which made our history illustrious. As soon as General Johnston reported himself fit for duty he was again intrusted by me with an important command, for, though my confidence in him had been much shaken, it had not yet been destroyed. He had been tested in the immediate command of an army, and in that position had not justified the high opinion I had previously entertained of him. He was now assigned to a different class of duties—to the general supervision and control of several armies, each under an immediate commander, to whom was intrusted the direct duty of organizing, disciplining, and supplying his own troops. His department included the Districts of Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi, with power to command in person wherever he should consider his services most needed, and to transfer troops at discretion. He thus controlled the army under General Bragg in Tennessee, those of Generals Pemberton and Gardner at Vicksburg and Port Hudson, and that of General Forney at Mobile and other points in Alabama. The new assignment was of higher grade, and to a more enlarged sphere than the former, embracing within its limits my own home and those of my nearest relatives and friends. It is, therefore, apparent that I felt no disposition to depreciate the merits of General Johnston, or to deprive him of an opportunity of rendering such conspicuous service as would secure military fame for himself. If private considerations were needed, in addition to a sense of public duty, in order to insure my earnest support of all his efforts for the good of the country, the motive of personal interest was not absent. Few were exposed to a more total loss of property than myself, in the event of his disastrous failure in this new command.

When General Grant made his demonstration on Vicksburg General Johnston failed to perceive its significance, and did not repair to that vital point in his department until ordered from Richmond to do so. He arrived, as he reported, too late. He did not proceed to the headquarters of the forces in the field, but stopped at Jackson and undertook from there to direct the operations of the army, though, as was shown by subsequent events, he was not well informed of the situation. After the investment of Vicksburg General Johnston remained inactive near Canton and Jackson, stating his inability to attack Grant, notwithstanding very urgent requests to do so. He was thereupon pressed to attack the forces of Banks at Port Hudson and rescue the army of General Gardner, but declined on the ground that he feared Grant would seize the occasion to advance upon Jackson, which place he considered too important to be exposed. Grant was then investing Vicksburg. After both Vicksburg and Port Hudson had been captured without one blow on his part to relieve either, a detachment was sent by General Grant from Vicksburg to capture Jackson. The enemy, it appears, was surprised to find the place held in force, and sent back to Vicksburg for re-enforcements. No attempt was made by General Johnston to improve the opportunity thus presented by attacking the isolated detachment of the enemy in his front. He remained within

his lines and permitted Grant again to concentrate a large force against the third and last section of that army. Not once during the entire campaign did he act on the maxim of attacking the foe in detail, a rule peculiarly applicable when an army is contending against an enemy superior in numbers. The familiar historical example of the war conducted by Frederick the Great against three armies, the junction of any two of which would have caused the downfall of his State, illustrates the value of this maxim, and serves to show how much, under the most adverse conditions, may be achieved by a general who, to professional skill, unites genius and energy.

No sooner had the enemy commenced investing Jackson than General Johnston pronounced it untenable. He had been there for many weeks, and to insure the successful defense of the place left Gardner's army at Port Hudson to its fate. Yet when the moment of trial came he decided that the lines of defense had been badly located, and that the works were so imperfect and insufficient as to render the position untenable. Weeks had been passed by the general commanding in the town with an army of between 20,000 and 30,000 men under his orders, and he had neither remedied defective location of lines nor given the works the requisite strength. Jackson was evacuated, and General Johnston withdrew his army to Eastern Mississippi. The evacuation of Jackson, as of Centerville, was marked by one of the most serious and irreparable sacrifices of property that has occurred during the war—a loss for which, in my judgment, no sufficient explanation has been given. The railroad bridge across the Pearl River at Jackson had been broken. It was necessary to rebuild it sufficiently to remove cars across, and there was a very large accumulation of rolling-stock on the western side of the stream which, without the bridge, could not be saved if Jackson were evacuated. Under these circumstances General Johnston, with over 20,000 men, suffered this gap to remain without an effort to fill it, although the work could with little difficulty have been completed in a manner to answer the requirements of the occasion. In consequence of this neglect a very large number of locomotives, said to be about ninety, and several hundred cars, were lost. We have never recovered from the injury to the transportation service occasioned by this failure on his part.

General Johnston's second campaign thus closed with the loss of every important position which the enemy had attacked. Not only was Vicksburg forced to surrender, with its garrison, but Port Hudson, with its garrison had been captured when he was able to relieve it, but abstained from making the movement lest he should thereby hazard the safety of Jackson, which, in its turn, was lost with the sacrifice of most valuable property. My confidence in General Johnston's fitness for separate command was now destroyed. The proof was too complete to admit of longer doubt that he was deficient in enterprise, tardy in movement, defective in preparation, and singularly neglectful of the duty of preserving our means of supply and transportation, although experience should have taught him their value and the difficulty of procuring them. It should be added, that neither in this nor in his previous command had it been possible for me to obtain from General Johnston any communications of his plans or purposes beyond vague statements of an intention to counteract the enemy as their plans might be developed. No indication was ever presented to induce the belief that he considered it proper to form combinations for attack as well as defense, and nothing is more certain than the final success of an enemy who with superior forces can continue his operations with-

out fear of being assailed, even when exposing weakness and affording opportunities of which a vigilant adversary would avail himself for attack. I came to the conclusion, therefore, that it would be imprudent to intrust General Johnston with another independent command for active operations in the field. Yet I yielded my convictions, and gave him a third trial, under the following circumstances:

General Bragg, at his own request, was relieved from the command of the Army of Tennessee after the battle of Missionary Ridge, and was succeeded by Hardee, his senior lieutenant-general. This officer, distrusting his own ability, earnestly requested the selection of another commander for the army, and a most urgent and general solicitation was made that General Johnston should be assigned to that duty. After relieving General Bragg, of our five generals Lee and Beauregard were the only officers of that grade in the field except General Johnston. Neither of the first two could properly be withdrawn from the position occupied by them, and General Johnston thus remained the only officer of rank superior to that of lieutenant-general who was available. The [act of Congress] authorizing the appointment of general officers with temporary rank had not then been passed. There seemed to be scarcely a choice left, but my reluctance to risk the disasters which I feared would result from General Johnston's assignment to this command could with difficulty be surmounted. Very pressing requests were made to me by members of Congress. The assignment of this commander was said to be demanded by the common voice of the army, the press, and the people; and, finally, some of my advisers in the Cabinet represented that it might well be the case that his assignment with the disasters apprehended from it would be less calamitous than the injury arising from an apparent indifference to the wishes and opinions of the officers of the State governments, of many members of Congress, and of other prominent citizens. I committed the error of yielding to these suggestions against my own deliberate convictions, and General Johnston entered upon his third important command—that of the army designed to recover the State of Tennessee from the enemy. In February, 1864, he was informed of the policy of the Government for his army. It was proposed to re-enforce him largely, and that he should at once advance and assume the offensive for the recovery of at least a part of the State of Tennessee. For this purpose he was advised to accumulate as rapidly as possible sufficient supplies for an advance, and assured that the re-enforcing troops should be sent to him as soon as he was prepared for the movement. Until such time it was deemed imprudent to open the country to incursions of the enemy by withdrawing from other positions, or to delay accumulation of supplies by increasing the number of consumers at the front. The winter was dry and mild. The enemy, as it was reported, not expecting any active movement on our part, had sent most of his horses back to Kentucky to be recruited for the spring campaign.

General Hardee had, just before relinquishing the command, reported our army as fully rested and recovered from the effect of its retreat from Missionary Ridge. He represented that there was effectiveness and sufficient supply in the ordnance, quartermaster's, and commissary departments; that the artillery was in good condition, the spirits of the troops excellent, and the army ready to fight. General Bragg sent to General Johnston all the information deemed valuable which had been acquired during his continuance in command. The Government spared nothing of men and materials at its disposal. Batteries made for General Lee's army were diverted and sent to General Johnston, and he was informed that troops would be sent to re-enforce him as

soon as he had collected supplies in depot for a forward movement. Absentees were rapidly returning to the army when he assumed command. Several thousand men had joined their regiments within the twenty days immediately preceding his arrival at Dalton. Troops were withdrawn from Charleston, Savannah, and Mobile to aid him. The main army of Alabama and Mississippi, under General Polk, was placed at his disposal. Cavalry was returned from East Tennessee to assist him.

General Johnston made no attempt to advance. As soon as he assumed command he suggested deficiencies and difficulties to be encountered in an offensive movement, which he declared himself unable to overcome. The enemy commenced advancing in May, and General Johnston began retreating. His retreat was not marked by any general engagement, nor does he appear to have attempted to cut off any portion or detachment of the enemy while they were marching around his flanks. Little fighting was done by his army, except when attacked in intrenchments. His course in abandoning a large extent of country abounding in supplies, and offering from its mountainous character admirable facilities for defense, so disheartened and demoralized the army that he himself announced by telegram large losses from straggling and desertion. At Allatoona, his position being almost impregnable, the enemy were compelled to make extensive flank movements which exposed them to attack; but they were allowed by General Johnston, who had marched out of his intrenchments, to interpose themselves between him and the ridge without receiving any assault upon their lengthened and exposed flank. He was thus maneuvered out of a most formidable position with slight loss to the enemy. By a repetition of a similar course he was driven, without any apparent capacity to help himself, through an entire district of mountain passes and defiles, and across rivers until he was finally brought to the suburbs of Atlanta.

No information was sent to me which tended to dispel the apprehension then generally expressed that Atlanta also was to be abandoned when seriously threatened. Some of those who had most earnestly urged General Johnston's assignment to the command of the army when it was at Dalton now with equal earnestness pressed his prompt removal. The consequences of changing a commander in the midst of a campaign were regarded to be so embarrassing that, even when it was considered by others too plainly necessary for doubt or delay, I preferred, by direct inquiry of General Johnston, to obtain that which had been too long withheld—his plan for future operations. A telegram was sent to him insisting on a statement of his purpose, so as to enable me to anticipate events. His reply showed that he intended leaving the intrenchments of Atlanta under the guard of the Georgia militia, and moving out with his army into the field. This was regarded as conclusive that Atlanta was also to be given up without a battle, and I could perceive no ground for hoping that General Johnston, who had failed to check the enemy's march from Dalton to Atlanta, through a country abounding in strong positions for defense, would be able to prevent the further advance through a level country to Macon, and the consequent severance of the Confederacy by a line passing through the middle of Georgia. He was therefore relieved. If I had been slow to consent to his assignment to that command, I was at least equally slow to agree to his removal.

I could not discover between the forces of General Johnston and General Sherman any such disparity as was alleged, nor do I believe that our army in any military department since the beginning of the war has been so nearly equal in numbers with the enemy as in this last

campaign of General Johnston. His report, dated October 20, 1864,* states that he had lost in killed and wounded in infantry and artillery during this campaign, 10,000 men, and from all other causes, principally slight sickness, 4,700. Of his cavalry the losses are not stated. His report, however, omits to state what his returns to the Adjutant-General's Office exhibit—a loss of over 7,000 captured by the enemy. His losses, therefore, in infantry and artillery were about 22,000, without including cavalry. Yet, notwithstanding these heavy losses, General Johnston's returns of July 10, a few days before his removal from command, show an aggregate present of 73,849 men, of whom 50,932 are reported to be effective. But his return of the previous month shows that among those not reported as effective were quite 11,000 men performing active service on extra duty, and as non-commissioned staff officers and musicians. The available force present must therefore have been about 62,000 men. The aggregate present of the 10th of March previous (after the arrival of the part of Hardee's corps that had been detached, although too late to aid General Polk in opposing Sherman's raid through Mississippi) was 54,806, and the effective present 42,408. It thus appears that so largely was General Johnston re-enforced that after all the losses of his campaign his army had increased about 19,000 men present, and about the same number of men available for active duty.

As the loss in killed and wounded, sick and prisoners, in infantry and artillery alone was 22,000 men, and would probably be swollen to 25,000 by adding the loss in cavalry, and as the force available on the 10th of July was about 62,000, it is deduced that General Johnston had been in command of an army of about 85,000 men fit for active duty to oppose Sherman, whose effective force was not believed to have been much in excess of that number. The entire force of the enemy was considerably greater than the numbers I have mentioned, and so was General Johnston's; but in considering the merits of the campaign it is not necessary to do more than compare the actual strength of the armies which might have joined the issue of battle. When it is considered that with forces thus matched General Johnston was endeavoring to hold a mountainous district of our own country with numerous fortified positions, while the enemy was in the midst of a hostile population and with a long line of communications to guard, it is evident that it was not the want of men or means which caused the disastrous failure of his campaign. My opinion of General Johnston's unfitness for command has ripened slowly and against my inclinations into a conviction so settled that it would be impossible for me again to feel confidence in him as the commander of an army in the field. The power to assign generals to appropriate duties is a function of trust confided to me by my countrymen. That trust I have ever been ready to resign at my country's call, but while I hold it, nothing shall induce me to shrink from its responsibilities or to violate the obligations it imposes.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

CHARLOTTE, *March 2, 1865.*
(Received 12.45.)

Hon. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE:

Governor Vance objects to alteration of gauge of North Carolina road northeast of Salisbury He does not wish connection broken with the road west of that place. What are your wishes?

J. E. JOHNSTON.

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* See Vol. XXXVIII, Part III, p. 612.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, March 2, 1865.

General R. E. LEE:

DEAR SIR: Yours has been received, giving me the distressing intelligence of the increase of desertion from our armies. I had heard from other sources of this defection of our troops and was already too well aware that the cause of it was to be found in the general public despondency. I inaugurated a series of public meetings in this State, by my recent proclamation, for the purpose of reviving public sentiment, and though many have been held and many more will be held, yet the near and triumphant approach of the enemy has so alarmed the timid and so engrossed the loyal in preparation for his coming, that I fear they will hardly have their proper effect. I have myself been so busy in trying to organize my militia and secure my vast public stores that I have only been able to address the people at two or three points. Rest assured, however, general, that I am fully alive to the importance of the crisis, and whatever man can do in my situation shall be done. I shall now order out in every county that class of the home guard not subject to duty in the field, and put them to work arresting deserters. In many counties, however, they are necessarily inefficient from the great number of the deserters and the natural fear of the destruction of their property, &c. If you could send me as many as two regiments of cavalry, by quartering them in the midst of these disaffected districts and foraging upon the friends of the deserters, they could not only arrest many, but could recruit themselves and horses, restore confidence, and inspire with courage the local forces. I earnestly recommend this action, general, and think in the long run it would not weaken your army. I think our people will respond liberally to the appeal for supplies, which I have just published this morning at the instance of the Secretary of War. The first answer made to it, two hours after its appearance in the morning papers, was from a poor widow of this city, who, hard pressed to live in these distressing times, as I know she is, came yet to offer me two pieces of bacon and a barrel of meal. Such offerings, on the sacred altar of country, hallow our cause, and I hope will secure God's blessing upon it.

Very truly, yours,

Z. B. VANCE.

P. S.—I send you a copy of my appeal to the people of my State.

Z. B. V.

CHARLOTTE, *March 2, 1865.*

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE, *Raleigh, N. C.:*

I find that not the War Department but General Beauregard ordered the widening of the railroad. I consider the extension of the work to Danville a military necessity.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS,
March 2, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

I have notified Governor Vance that the Quartermaster-General and I both deem very important that the widening of the gauge should continue to Danville if possible.

R. E. LEE.

[MARCH 2, 1865.—For Johnston to Lee, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1052.]

RICHMOND, *March 2, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding:

Major Johnston of my department reported three days ago from Salisbury that he was waiting first train for Charlotte to report to you. I beg you to take all transportation in the country under military necessity.

A. H. COLE,
Major, &c.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 51. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, March 2, 1865.*

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XXI. Paragraph XL, Special Orders, No. 48, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, is so amended as to read: Paragraph II, General Orders, No. 6, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, February 14, 1865, is hereby revoked, and Brig. Gen. G. J. Pillow, Provisional Army, C. S., will report to General Joseph E. Johnston, commanding, &c., for assignment to the duty of collecting and forwarding to their proper commands all absentees from the armies of the Confederate States who may be found west of the Savannah River.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Unionville, S. C., March 2, 1865.

Major-General LORING:

The lieutenant-general commanding directs that you move your command at sunrise to-morrow to Scaife's Ferry, on Broad River. Should you find everything there in readiness, you will cross your command at once. Lieutenant-Colonel Sevier will either direct the route or send you a guide.

Respectfully,

W. D. GALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Unionville, S. C., March 2, 1865.

Major-General CHEATHAM:

Lieutenant-General Stewart directs that you move your command in the morning, as soon as you will have three days' cooked rations ready, to Scaife's Ferry, on Broad River.

Respectfully, &c.,

W. D. GALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
March 2, 1865—7.40 a. m.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER:

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatches of 4.35 and 8.10 yesterday.* He deems it best that you should move around to the left, to get in the front and on that flank of the enemy. He desires you to move across to the Rocky River road this morning as soon as you can get in motion, and the information you will obtain then will determine the best route to pursue from that point. General Hampton will follow you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

He desires you to leave a party to follow the rear of the enemy on the Wadesborough road to pick up stragglers and worry the enemy. You can recall your pickets from below, as the general deems them now unnecessary.

Respectfully,

H. B. McC.

Have you any report from the Third Alabama, Lieutenant-Colonel Robins, who was sent over to the Rocky River road last evening?

[MARCH 2, 1865.—For Wheeler to McClellan (two dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1123.]

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 2, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE, *Richmond, Va.:*

I find Colonel Childs has allowed a press dispatch to go from Fayetteville which gives Sherman's position, and will do us injury. I suggest the Richmond and Petersburg papers be not allowed to publish it.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 2, 1865—3 p. m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG, *Near Wilmington, N. C.:*

Enemy is reported moving eastwardly from Lancaster and Camden; destination whether Cheraw or Florence not determined. Hardee will fall back on Fayetteville if hard pressed. Would you be able to form timely junction there with him and other forces to give battle to Sherman and then to Schofield?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 2, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD, *Charlotte, N. C.:*

If assured that the junction will be made, and a battle delivered immediately thereafter, I can join at point indicated on three days' notice, with 6,000 men. Any delay would expose this whole region to devastation and the capital to destruction.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

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* See Part I, pp. 1122, 1123.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 2, 1865—9.40 p. m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Near Wilmington, N. C.:

The movement of Sherman indicates with certainty an advance on Cheraw; thence he will doubtless move forward upon Fayetteville. Hampton and Hardee will oppose him as stoutly and as long as practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 2, 1865.*

Doctor FRETWELL:
(Care of General Rains, Richmond.)

Wanted here immediately with all torpedoes on hand. No boats can be procured here.

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 2, 1865.*

General HOKE,
Rockfish Creek:

Torpedo man in Richmond has been telegraphed for.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 2, 1865.*

Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville:

We have reliable information up to yesterday. Enemy had made no movement up Cape Fear. Communicate to General Hardee.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 2, 1865.*

Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

Telegraphic information as to position and movements of enemy is calculated to do us great injury, and in General Bragg's opinion should not be sent except in official dispatches.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 2, 1865.*

Lieutenant-Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville:

Telegraph movements of enemy. Send dispatch by courier.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[MARCH 3, 1865.—From Lee to Breckinridge, reporting operations in South Carolina, see Part I, p. 1045.]

CHARLOTTE, *March 3, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:

Indications are that the enemy will go to Fayetteville, as you surmise. I suggest that all troops within reach should be under the same commander, and, therefore, ordered to obey me.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

RICHMOND, *March 3, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

Can you not hasten march of Stewart and Cheatham? Do not understand from your dispatch whether enemy is moving upon Cheraw or Florence. If latter, he may return to coast; if former, may go to Fayetteville, when by union with Bragg you might attack to advantage.

R. E. LEE.

CHARLOTTE, *March 3, 1865.*

Governor Z. B. VANCE,
Raleigh, N. C.:

To make a prompt movement to meet the enemy threatening your capital, I need fifty additional good wagons and teams to transport supplies. To meet the emergency will you assist me by having them collected from the vicinity of Raleigh and Smithfield at the earliest possible moment.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

GREENSBOROUGH, *March 3, 1865.*

Capt. C. C. MCPHAIL,
General Johnston's Staff:

Every effort shall be made to have cars at Salisbury in required time. Will telegraph you again to-night.

S. R. CHISMAN,
Major and Quartermaster.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 52. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, March 3, 1865.*

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X. Brig. Gen. H. W. Mercer, Provisional Army, C. S., is relieved from present assignment, and will report for duty to Maj. Gen. Howell Cobb, commanding, &c., Reserves of Georgia.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
[*March*] *3, 1865.* (Via Fayetteville 4th.)

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: The enemy changed position yesterday. Advanced on Chesterfield Court-House and crossed Thompson's Creek above that

point late in the afternoon. I am evacuating Cheraw and shall move to Rockingham, where I hope to receive your instructions. General Butler thinks army of Sherman is moving on this place or on Rockingham.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

CHESTERFIELD, S. C., *March 3, 1865—3 p. m.*

Lieut. Gen. ALEX. P. STEWART,
Commanding Army of Tennessee:

GENERAL: I met my scouts here who have been fifteen or twenty miles forward. Their report concurs with other reports, that the enemy has all crossed the Catawba River, and it is reported that they have halted in the vicinity of Lancaster. I find no troops here; everything has moved to Charlotte. I find no forage or commissary stores here. General, if the emergency for me to move is not too demanding, I would respectfully ask permission to remain at this place to-morrow, the 4th, for the purpose of having some of my horses of my regiment shod, of which I stand greatly in need as the most of my horses are barefoot and very tender. I shall expect orders from you by the bearer.

I am, very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

D. W. BIZZELL,
Captain, Commanding Third Arkansas Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS LEE'S CORPS,
Charlotte, N. C., March 3, 1865.

In pursuance of Special Field Orders, headquarters Military Division of the West, the undersigned hereby assumes command of Johnson's division, in Lee's corps, and in virtue of his rank as senior major-general also of the corps itself.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
March 3, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

MY DEAR GENERAL: Your letter was received last evening, and I will inquire into the matters you speak about, letting you know the result of my investigations. The enemy are still moving toward Chesterfield. The Fourteenth Corps is following the three others, whose position was given to you by General Butler in his last dispatch. The cavalry is on the Landsford and Wadesborough road, and I propose to attack them as soon as Wheeler gets up. Can you not get the troops from Charlotte over to join Hardee? They might march rapidly on this road, which will be covered by the cavalry, and then join him. If all the infantry can be put together we can punish Sherman greatly, for his troops are much scattered. You gave me no orders as to reporting, so I have continued to report to General Beauregard.

I am, very truly, yours,

WADE HAMPTON.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
Doctor Lowry's House, March 3, 1865—9.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER :

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to say that he is informed that the wagons are still on the other side of Lane's Creek. He thinks that it will be impossible for the wagons to keep up with us, as we will have to make a rapid march to get in front of the enemy, and he thinks that they had better be left under small guard at some safe point, or sent back to the railroad where they can forage, and join us at some future time. General H. says that if you think you can bring the wagons along you can do so, but he does not think it will be possible to do so. Please give the necessary orders to place them in safety, and inform General Hampton what is your decision. You will need a few ordnance wagons.

Respectfully,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 3, 1865.*

Col. G. G. DIBRELL, *Fort Mills, S. C.:*

General Wheeler is east of Lancaster Court-House. You will, if not otherwise ordered, move to that point and report to General Wheeler without delay. A party of fifty mounted men is reported to be depredating on the country along the line of railroad between this place and Fort Mills. You will have these men arrested, disarmed, and sent here under guard. They are reported to belong to cavalry. See to this and move as ordered.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, *March 3, 1865.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG, *Goldsborough:*

Is it not probable that Sherman and Schofield will attempt to unite? Could you not in such event interpose between the latter and Hardee, delaying his march? Please inform me at Raleigh where your troops are.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, March 3, 1865.

General B. BRAGG, *Goldsborough, N. C.:*

GENERAL: I hope you will induce all slave owners in Duplin, New Hanover, and Onslow to remove immediately all able-bodied slaves in this direction, and will afford them all necessary aid in so doing. If necessary I will sustain you in removing by force all such slaves as will likely afford recruits to the enemy. If the owners cannot support them the Government can usefully employ them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. B. VANCE.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 3, 1865.*

Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

Suspend removal of subsistence and forage and collect all you possibly can at Fayetteville. Did you correct first false report of enemy's advance up west bank to General Hardee?

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 3, 1865.*

Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville:

Allow no telegrams conveying military information to be sent except officially.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 3, 1865.*

Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville:

In future telegraph all reports from General Hardee direct to General Johnston, as well as here.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 3, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE A. CUNNINGHAM,
Raleigh:

Reconnoiter shortest road from Morrisville to terminus Coal Fields railway, leading from Fayetteville. Report immediately condition and what repairs needed. Rest of party must go to Greensborough.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 3, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. A. R. LAWTON,
Quartermaster-General, Richmond, Va.:

Would it not be advisable to commence widening the gauge of the road between Danville and Greensborough to prevent delay in transportation of troops and supplies? It ought to be done in eight days at farthest.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SALISBURY, *March 4, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:

I am on my way to Hardee via Fayetteville. Lee's corps will start to-day by rail by the same route, and Stewart and Cheatham from Chester to-morrow. General Beauregard will bring them on.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

RICHMOND, *March 4, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

Assume command of all troops in Department of North Carolina, except those from this army arresting deserters. General Bragg informed.

R. E. LEE.

RALEIGH, *March 4, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Charlotte, N. C.:

I can have fifty wagons, mostly two-horse, by this day week, if you will give authority to impress a few country wagons for post duty. State has no authority to impress.

Z. B. VANCE.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 53. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, March 4, 1865.*

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XX. Paragraph XXXIII, Special Orders, No. 39, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, is hereby revoked, and Brig. Gen. E. M. Law, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned with the cavalry under General Wade Hampton's command.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ROCKINGHAM, S. C., *March 4, 1865.*

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: The enemy pressed us closely yesterday morning, on leaving Cheraw, and it was with great difficulty that the bridge over the river was destroyed. It was, however, effectively destroyed, but the enemy succeeded in laying a pontoon, and at last accounts (9.30 this morning) had crossed a brigade. Most of my command will reach this place to-night. I brought off all of the supplies that my transportation, which is in a wretched condition, could admit of. In obedience to General Beauregard's instructions of 24th ultimo, I shall move toward Greensborough to-morrow. I had made arrangements to move by Fayetteville, but received a dispatch from General Bragg stating that Schofield was moving up the west bank of Cape Fear River. His dispatch contradicting this report was not received until yesterday, when my troops and trains were moving on the Rockingham road, and I had ordered the destruction of all bridges on the Fayetteville road. Sherman, I think, will march to Fayetteville, to form a junction with Schofield and to obtain supplies.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR GREENSBOROUGH, N. C.,
March 4, 1865.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Fayetteville:
(Care Colonel Childs.)

I am on the way to join you. In the meantime keep before the enemy and endeavor to impede his march. Tennessee troops are on the way.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 11. } HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE WEST,
Charlotte, N. C., March 4, 1865.

* * * * * * *

V. Stewart's and Cheatham's corps, with any troops of Lee's corps, Army of Tennessee, that may arrive at Chester, S. C., will proceed by rail to Smithfield, N. C., in the shortest possible time, moving from Chester, S. C., with baggage, &c., complete and three days' cooked rations. Five days' rations in bulk, for issue to the troops when needed, will be drawn at Charlotte, N. C., as the troops pass. Artillery, wagons, and animals will also be shipped by rail. No reshipment will take place in Charlotte, N. C. The troops should move well supplied with ammunition.

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By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 12. } HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF THE WEST,
Charlotte, N. C., March 4, 1865.

For the purpose of collecting and providing for the prompt restoration to their several regiments, battalions, and companies, all absentees from Lee's, Stewart's, and Cheatham's corps, the following measures will be taken without delay:

First. Brigadier-General Mackall, Provisional Army, C. S., in addition to his other duties, is specially charged with the general supervision of the service involved, his headquarters being at Macon, Ga., and he will take all practicable steps to recall to their colors all who are absent from any other cause than actual disability for field service or on properly granted furloughs. To this end he will establish camps at Columbus, Atlanta, Albany, Macon, and Augusta, Ga., Montgomery, Selma, and Mobile, Ala., and at Jackson, Macon, and Columbus, Miss., and such other points as may be found expedient, to which absentees living in the vicinities, respectively, shall be required to repair and report, and to which will be sent all those who may be collected by neighboring enrolling officers who will be called on to give assistance under the regulations of the Conscript Bureau. He will also require all officers and men to repair to the nearest rendezvous appointed, who may be absent by any authority less than that of these headquarters, or of the commander of the Department of Alabama, Mississippi, and East Louisiana, in which case he will make a requisition for such absentees upon that commander, to whom he will communicate a copy of these orders, with a request for the necessary orders to enable him to execute his duties within the limits of that command.

Second. All officers and men collected at the several rendezvous established under these orders, south and west of Montgomery, Ala., will be concentrated as soon as practicable at that place, and those brought together in Georgia will be assembled at Augusta. They will there be formed into temporary companies of sixty privates, and into battalions of eight companies each; will be clothed, armed, and equipped as well as practicable and sent forward without delay to the army in the field.

Third. Corps commanders will cause consolidated descriptive lists to be made out at once and sent in to these headquarters of all absentees from their commands, which shall also indicate, in the column of remarks, as accurately as may be, the place of residence or home vicinage of each individual absentee.

Fourth. Officers will be detailed from each corps to proceed without delay to Macon to report to General Mackall to assist either as commandants of the camps of rendezvous, or in such other ways in the discharge of the duties provided for in these orders as General Mackall may direct.

These officers should be selected with a view to special fitness for the duty and should be impressed with the vital importance to this army of the most active performance of the duties intrusted to them.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Augusta, March 4, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Charlotte, N. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 20th ultimo, in relation to the troops and trains at Augusta, on the 27th ultimo. It was brought by Captain Hazzard, not Lieutenant Trenholm, who has not yet reported. I was therefore in the dark in respect to the condition of the army and affairs which Lieutenant Trenholm was charged to communicate. The orders and instructions embraced in your letter have all been carried out. The troops arriving here are being organized and equipped, and would have moved forward, in pursuance to your instructions from Charlotte of the 24th ultimo, to General Hill, received on the 2d instant, but the non-arrival of army trains and stores prevented. The trains are detained at Milledgeville in consequence of the high freshet in the Oconee, which has caused the pontoon bridge to be removed. Every effort is being made to hurry them up, in order that they can move with the troops. Your communication of the 13th ultimo, directing me to report with others of the staff, was not received until the 2d instant. I had made preparations to leave this morning, but last night your orders to General Young of the 27th ultimo were received, by which I am directed to remain here. General Young is preparing to carry out his instructions, but will be delayed for want of pontoon train. This was detained at Macon, in pursuance of orders from Lieutenant-General Taylor and General M. L. Smith. I send telegrams on this subject for your information.

In pursuance of your letter of the 24th, orders have been issued to the staff of the Army of Tennessee to report to General Joseph E. Johnston at Charlotte. Major-General Elzey, chief of artillery, will remain

here with the light batteries. I would respectfully suggest that it would be well, under existing circumstances, that the larger portion be removed to some interior point, not only on account of safety, but for convenience to forage, &c. After the departure of General Young and the trains and troops of the army Augusta will be uncovered. Nothing will be left but Cumming's small brigade of Georgia Reserves and Browne's Reserves. On the 28th [25th] instant Governor Brown sent a dispatch to General Fry, notifying that he intended withdrawing his militia; and on Sunday, the 26th, without any notification, the militia abandoned the lines and left. I telegraphed Governor Brown on the subject, but received no answer. I send you copy of communication from him to you on this subject. In this state of affairs it would be better to remove the artillery. All the artillery companies left in Mississippi have gone to Mobile, under orders from Lieutenant-General Taylor, except five companies sent to Demopolis. The order for its reorganization General Elzey informs me he did not receive, and was not aware of its existence until I called his attention to it and gave him a copy. The railroad has been completed to Atlanta from West Point, and I have directed Major Hottle to transfer his force to the east of it and work eastwardly, until he meets Captain Grant. Captain Grant reports that he cannot complete the work until the middle of April. The bridge over the Alcony will be finished in ten days. I should be glad to have your views in relation to the amount of stores to be kept on hand in this section, and the best points for their location; what lines of route are most likely to become important, in order that repairs may be looked after. Under existing circumstances, the route from Washington to Abbeville seems to have lost some of its value. The reconnaissance of that route shows the dirt road to be very bad and at present impracticable. I would call your attention to the fact that the gauge of the West Point and Montgomery road is the narrow one. It is highly important that this be remedied. There is no commanding officer at Columbia, and great confusion exists there. Beyond there is no courier-line. I have ordered Colonel Rudler to that place as commandant, with instructions to establish a through line.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 4, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Chester, S. C.:

Troops, wagons, artillery, and caissons must move from Chester to Salisbury without reshipment at this place. Trains will be sent as soon as possible. Remain at Chester until troops commence leaving and things are working systematically, and then proceed to Salisbury and arrange there, and push them ahead as rapidly as possible. Is Ayer with General Stewart?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[MARCH 4, 1865.—For Wheeler to McClellan (three dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1124.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 4, 1865—8.25 p. m.

Col. J. WARREN GRIGSBY,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: Major-General Wheeler desires you to take the wagons to some point north of the latitude of Wadesborough. It is reported the enemy are moving on Wadesborough and will be there with infantry to-morrow. We are just turning in direction of Wadesborough.

Respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

M. G. HUDSON,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 4, 1865—9.15 p. m.

Col. J. W. GRIGSBY,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: I wrote you a few minutes since to move with the trains to some point north of the latitude of Wadesborough. Major-General Wheeler now directs that you move with them to Lanesborough. After getting to that point you will move with the trains in a northeasterly direction, leaving Wadesborough to the right. Keep a lookout, and report any information you may hear of the enemy. You will organize the men so as to defend the train if attacked.

Respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

M. G. HUDSON,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 4, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE,
Duplin Road:

It was intended to concentrate Sheppard's train only at Warsaw. Continue to use your own train, as you yesterday telegraphed Major Cameron you were doing, but at same time keep it available to aid in transporting from Warsaw the supplies there being collected, in event of a movement as indicated in Major Cameron's telegram to you yesterday.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, *March 5, 1865.*

General JOHNSTON:

Endeavor to supply your army by collecting subsistence through the country. That at depots is necessary for Army of Northern Virginia.

R. E. LEE.

RICHMOND, *March 5, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

In moving troops on North Carolina Railroad please do not interrupt transportation of supplies to this army.

R. E. LEE.

MARCH 5, 1865.

[General JOHNSTON:]

The point of uniting with General Bragg, as well as the force of the enemy against which to operate, must be determined by you. I wish you to act as you think best.

R. E. LEE.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

In absence of General Johnston I report that three brigades of Stewart's corps left Chesterville at 11 o'clock to-day. The rest of his corps and Cheatham's will arrive there to-day in time to follow movement of Stevenson's corps from here, and as rapidly as railroad transportation will permit.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

General JOHNSTON:

General Hampton reports from near White's Store at 9 p. m. yesterday that Fourteenth Corps is moving on Wadesborough, and Twentieth Corps on a road to its right. Prisoners say they expect to reach Wadesborough to-night.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

(Same to General R. E. Lee.)

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865—12 m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Raleigh, N. C.:

Three brigades of Stewart's corps left Chesterville at 11 to-day. The rest of his corps and Cheatham's will arrive there to-day in time to follow movement of Stevenson's corps from here.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 5, 1865.*

General JOHNSTON:

I respectfully suggest that from Page's Depot to Aven's Ferry, thence to Jonesborough, thence to Fayetteville by Wilmington Railroad, is the shortest route to Fayetteville from North Carolina Railroad. Arrangements have been made to have six large flats at ferry.

F. L. CHILDS,
Colonel, Commanding.

RICHMOND, *March 5, 1865.*

Col. J. M. KENNARD:

Major Sloan has some supplies at Raleigh. Send an energetic messenger after your ammunition. Let him report to Colonel Rains, to whom I have sent instructions about cartridges. Vanderford was lately assigned as your assistant at Tupelo.

J. GORGAS,
Chief of Ordnance.

RICHMOND, *March 5, 1865.*

Major MOORE:

The subsistence already collected and in the depots of North Carolina must not be issued or retained for General Johnston's army. You must subsist it from the country likely to be overrun by the enemy. The Army of Northern Virginia requires every pound of subsistence now collected and all that be made available for shipment for Virginia over and above your absolute wants. Reply.

I. M. ST. JOHN.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

General A. P. STEWART,
Chester, S. C.:

Instructions have been sent you. You will move when you can pass through here to Salisbury, thus avoiding reshipment at this place. Instructions sent by Surgeon Darby.

J. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Chesterville, S. C., March 5, 1865.

Lieut. Col. JOHN M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Charlotte, N. C.:

Cheatham's corps has 4,697 men, 44 wagons and ambulances, 14 pieces of artillery, 7 caissons, and 412 animals. Stewart's corps has 1,694 men, 22 wagons and ambulances, 6 pieces of artillery, 2 caissons, and 238 animals. Captain Steele, engineer of General Wheeler's command, came with me to this place. Knowing nothing else to do with him, will bring him along. He has 185 men, 4 wagons, and 57 animals.

ALEX. P. STEWART,
Lieutenant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. WADE HAMPTON:
(Care of General Hardee, Cheraw, via Fayetteville, N. C.)

Your train and Butler's move to-morrow morning, via Albemarle, Troy, Carthage, and Fayetteville.

J. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
March 5, 1865—12.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER:

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to say that he is at White's house, about eight miles from Wadesborough. Law has gone into camp beyond here and will picket toward Wadesborough and will send out scouts to endeavor to locate the enemy. He is ordered to be ready to move at daylight. General Hampton desires you to close up everything on this road and camp wherever you can find forage. He is informed

that there is a large quantity of corn at Mr. Scales', probably enough for your whole command. General Hampton desires you to be ready to move in at daylight in the morning. He desires to push into Wadesborough if possible, and wishes that you would endeavor to locate the enemy by a few good scouts.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Law will be in advance in the morning.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
March 5, 1865—6.40 a. m.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER:

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to inquire whether General Allen has come up and fed, and whether you have any information. Did Humes get corn?

Very respectfully,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Wadesborough, March 5, 1865—4 p. m.

Maj. H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I learn from citizens that the only place we can ford the river is at Grassy Island, which is eleven miles from this place. They state that there is an abundance of forage in the vicinity of Grassy Island. Grassy Island is twelve miles above Sneedsborough. The ferries above Sneedsborough are as follows: First, Haile's, five miles above; second, Wall's, four miles above Haile's; third, Stanback's, ten miles above Wall's and five miles above Grassy Island; fourth, Dumas' Ferry, five miles above Stanback's.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 5, 1865.

Col. J. WARREN GRIGSBY,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: Major-General Wheeler desires you to move, with the trains, to Lanesborough and then move in an easterly direction, leaving Wadesborough to right and cross Pedee River. We move toward Wadesborough and will try to keep between you and the enemy. You must keep out scouts so as not to run unawares on the enemy.

Respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

M. G. HUDSON,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

CHARLOTTE, *March 5, 1865.*
(Received 4 o'clock.)

General COOPER:

Part of my troops are with General Hardee and that part under commandant of prison camps scattered over two States. Will you order them all to be at once reported back to me. Shall I remain with the army or return with reserves to South Carolina?

JAS. CHESNUT, JR.,
Brigadier-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. BRADLEY T. JOHNSON,
Salisbury, N. C.:

Have trains unloaded and unblock railroad that trains may leave here. Furnish agent of road with hands and buckets to supply wood and water to locomotives. Please give your special attention to the unloading and loading of trains, and render every assistance. Major Morfit is represented as being a suitable man.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. B. T. JOHNSON,
Salisbury, N. C.:

Please have trains unloaded and returned here. See to the loading of trains going to Raleigh and other points and have no delay at Salisbury.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. BRADLEY T. JOHNSON,
Salisbury, N. C.:

No one is authorized to grant leaves of absence or detach officers or men except Generals Johnston and Beauregard.

J. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, *March 5, 1865.*

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President, &c.:

Mr. PRESIDENT: This military department having been merged by the General-in-Chief, as a natural consequence of the present condition, in the command of General Johnston, it fairly terminates the temporary command to which you assigned me. For this and other reasons which present themselves to your mind as forcibly as I could express them, I beg that you will relieve me from the embarrassing position. I seek no command or position, and only desire to be ordered to await assignment to duty at some point in Georgia or Alabama. The circumstances constraining me to make this request are painful in the extreme, but I cannot blindly disregard them. You will find many abler servants to fill my place, but I feel the country has had none more sincerely devoted.

I am, dear sir, as ever, your friend and servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RALEIGH, *March 5, 1865.*

[General JOHNSTON:]

In a dispatch just received from General Hardee he says he received a dispatch from me saying Schofield was moving up west bank of Cape Fear. I sent no such dispatch. On the contrary, on learning Colonel Childs had given such information, it was promptly contradicted by Colonel Anderson, and General Hardee correctly advised.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Rockingham, March 5, 1865—5.30 p. m.

General BRAGG:

GENERAL: I have forwarded your dispatch to General Hardee. The rear of his column left this place at 11 a. m. I will remain here to-night with one brigade cavalry. The enemy crossed at Cheraw yesterday morning and drove in my pickets at daylight, two miles from the river, on the road to Fayetteville. From the columns of smoke seen below, they appear to be marching toward Fayetteville. The Fifteenth Corps was at Society Hill day before yesterday, and my impression is that the Seventeenth and Fifteenth will cross there, and the Twentieth and Fourteenth at Cheraw. General Hardee is on the road to Ashborough. Brigadier-General Robertson was cut off on the other side the Pedee with a cavalry brigade and will cross on the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad bridge, from which point he has been ordered to Fayetteville. If you can communicate with him it would be well to hurry him up. He has, I think, a battery of artillery, also. Sherman, I have no doubt, is making for Fayetteville.

M. C. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

T. J. SUMNER,
Superintendent, Salisbury, N. C.:

If saddles and sabers have not left Salisbury keep them there. Captain Lipscomb will be there in a day or so.

J. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

T. J. SUMNER,
Superintendent, Salisbury, N. C.:

Please give your special attention to the unloading and loading of trains that they may return here. Call on General Johnson at Salisbury for assistance.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Chester, S. C.:

Move at once to Salisbury and take charge of transportation of troops and material.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Chesterville, S. C.:

Are Sharp's and Brantly's brigades with Stewart's or Cheatham's troops or on way from Augusta? They belong to Lee's corps.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 5, 1865—8 p. m.*

Colonel CREWS,
Commanding Cavalry Brigade:
(Care of General Stewart or Cheatham, Chesterville, S. C.)

Cross your command at Catawba railroad bridge, and move, via Monroe, to Rockingham or Fayetteville, avoiding Wadesborough, where enemy is reported to be, and report to General Hampton or Wheeler.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., March 6, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

A paper in regard to shipment of supplies to this place, with indorsements by General Beauregard and yourself, just received. Of course your army must be fed, but it is desirable to have its supplies collected, if possible, from the country by officers serving in the field. When absolutely necessary to use supplies collected at depots by the commissary department here, please direct the proper officers to inform Commissary-General. General Lee's army is in a great strait for provisions.

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 6, 1865.*
(Received 9.15 7th.)

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

Such orders as you direct for procuring subsistence for this army have been already given.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

CHARLOTTE, *March 6, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

Have just received copy of telegram to you from Hardee, saying he is moving on Greensborough. He has not received instructions of 24th ultimo. He should be recalled at once to Fayetteville or Raleigh. Shall troops from here be sent to Smithfield or Raleigh?*

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, *March 6, 1865—2 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Fayetteville, N. C.:*

To save time, I have sent following dispatch from here and Greensborough to General Hardee, on road from Rockingham: "March at once on Fayetteville, if possible; if not, then on Raleigh."

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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*As received by Johnston; but see dispatch as recorded in Beauregard's telegrams-sent book, under date of March 7, p. 1336.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 6, 1865—8.45 p. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

Hampton reports, at 5 p. m. yesterday, the Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps at Sneedsborough, Fifteenth and Seventeenth at Cheraw; each column preparing to cross river.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 6, 1865—11.30 p. m.*

General BEAUREGARD,
Charlotte:

Dispatch 2 p. m. received. I had given same orders to General Hardee.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 6, 1865.*

Captain GOODMAN,
Assistant Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

Obey order of Quartermaster-General, but it is not seen by your dispatch why you cannot comply with both orders.

J. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 6, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Chester, S. C.:

Come here on first train.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 6, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS, *Rock Hill, S. C.:*

Needed badly at Salisbury.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 6, 1865.*

General BRADLEY T. JOHNSON,
Salisbury, N. C.:

Direct railroad agent to send the trains here at such times as will not delay trains going from here to Salisbury.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 6, 1865.*

Col. A. L. RIVES,
Engineer Bureau, Richmond, Va.:

General Gilmer has left for Richmond.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 7 [6?], 1865.*

Major CHISMAN, OR
POST QUARTERMASTER,
Greensborough, N. C.:

Send messenger forthwith and with utmost celerity in direction of Rockingham with copy of this dispatch,* directing General Hardee to march at once on Fayetteville, if possible; if not, then on Raleigh. Answer and report action.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 6, 1865.*

Maj. SAMUEL R. CHISMAN,
Greensborough, N. C.:

Send horses to Raleigh and notify Lieutenant Adams, who is in charge of guns, when he passes Greensborough. Adams left this morning.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, *March 6, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

Secretary of War directs that under General Orders, No. 4, present series, you can authorize the taking of animals for public use that are likely to fall into hands of the enemy. I beg you to give such orders to my officers as will insure our getting such stock.

A. H. COLE,
Major and Inspector.

RICHMOND, *March 6, 1865.*

[General J. E. JOHNSTON:]

My officers are directed to report to you for orders. Hope they may be able to supply your wants. If you deem my presence necessary, please say so.

A. H. COLE,
Major, &c.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE WEST,
Charlotte, N. C., March 6, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Rockingham:

GENERAL: I have just received a copy of your telegram of the 4th instant from Rockingham to General Johnston, who is on his way to Fayetteville. You should have followed the instructions contained in my letter of the 26th ultimo (acknowledged by Colonel Roy) and not of the 24th. Fayetteville and Raleigh being evidently the objective points of the enemy, General Johnston and myself contemplate a concentration of forces at the first of those points if possible; otherwise, at the latter. You are therefore directed to remove at once, and rapidly,

* Probably Beauregard to Hardee, March 6, fourth, *post.*

from your present position to Fayetteville, if still practicable; if not, to Raleigh. The ends to be attained by this movement are so momentous—indeed, so vital—to success of operations which have been determined upon, that it is expected you will permit none but insurmountable obstacles to turn you aside from the attempt, except, of course, if General Johnston should see cause, in the existing state of affairs, to change your instructions and give other orders.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

BARBEE'S, *March 6, 1865—9 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:
(Care Colonel Childs, Fayetteville.)

It is too late to turn to Fayetteville. Take the best route to Raleigh. It may be through Egypt, crossing both Deep and Haw Rivers, near their junction. There is a bridge over Deep River. You must not go toward Greensborough, but to Raleigh, if you cannot turn to Fayetteville, of which you must judge. Where is the cavalry?

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

Abstract from field return of McLaws' division, for March 6, 1865.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Total present.	Aggregate present.
	Officers.	Men.			
Harrison's brigade	.....	.....	948	1,075	1,156
Blanchard's brigade	.....	.....	481	552	595
Fiser's brigade	.....	.....	787	839	899
Henderson's brigade	.....	.....	270	344	385
Hardy's brigade	.....	.....	509	676	733
Conner's brigade	.....	.....	1,383	1,448	1,570
Grand total*	.....	.....	4,378	4,934	5,338

*Note in column of remarks shows Earle's battalion of artillery with 307 effective total and 346 aggregate present.

DARLINGTON COURT-HOUSE, *March 6, 1865.*

Captain LILLARD,
Commanding:

CAPTAIN: I take pleasure in communicating in writing the dispatch from Brigadier-General Robertson:

Express to Captain Lillard and his gallant Tennesseeans my thanks for their handsome behavior yesterday.

Yours, very respectfully,

JOHN JENKS,
Major.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., March 6, 1865.

J. S. THRASHER,
Superintendent Press Association, Charlotte, N. C.:

General Chesnut has been ordered to report his command of Reserves to General Johnston. It is very important to the Government to establish the line of couriers, but it devolves upon General Johnston to determine whether the cavalry can be spared.

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 6, 1865.*

His Excellency Governor VANCE,
Raleigh, N. C.:

I thank you for your kind offer to feed the passing troops, and have instructed operator as suggested.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 6, 1865—3 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville:

The enemy's advance was this morning nine miles from Kinston. They are in heavy force and moving in confidence. A few hours would suffice to unite the forces at Smithfield with mine and insure a victory.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., *March 6, 1865—8.30 p. m.*

General B. BRAGG,
Goldsborough:

In obedience to the orders of the general-in-chief General Johnston assumes command of the troops serving in North Carolina.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 6, 1865—10 p. m.*

General BRAGG,
Goldsborough:

General Johnston desires you will call the troops at Smithfield down to Goldsborough. Orders will be sent to those passing Raleigh to go to Goldsborough. As these troops are required against Sherman also, they can only leave Goldsborough for a few hours for an impending fight.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 7, 1865—12.20 a. m.

The commanding officer of troops at Smithfield will, in compliance with the above instructions, proceed by rail with his command to Kinston, N. C., as soon as transportation, which is ordered, will be furnished. Prompt action must be taken.

By order of General Bragg:

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 6, 1865—10.30 p. m.*

Major-General HOKE,
Kinston:

The suggestion of a concentration against the force confronting you was telegraphed General Johnston to-day at 3 p. m.

JOHN B. SALE,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

BARBEE'S, *March 6, 1865—10 a. m.*

Colonel CHILDS,
Fayetteville:

Send following and previous dispatches immediately to General Hardee:

Following dispatch just received, dated March 5, 1865—

"General Hampton reports from near White's Store, at 9 p. m. yesterday, that Fourteenth Corps is moving on Wadesborough, and Twentieth Corps on a road to its right. Prisoners say they expect to reach Wadesborough to-night.

G. T. BEAUREGARD."

If the enemy move upon the North Carolina Railroad, do so too. If they move on Fayetteville, do so too, if practicable; if not, upon Raleigh, as previously instructed.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
Near Fair Ground, N. C., March 6, 1865—10 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel CHILDS:

COLONEL: Agreeably to instructions from General Johnston, I am moving my command, via Monroe's Bridge and New Gilead, to Fayetteville. I hope to reach Fayetteville in three or four days (not counting to-day). Major-General Butler's cavalry will move on the road to Graham's Bridge and parallel roads. Have supplies of forage and rations collected at Fayetteville for my command. Inform General Johnston by telegraph of my movements.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., *March 6, 1865—10.30 p. m.*

Maj. C. S. STRINGFELLOW,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Raleigh:

General Johnston requests you will yourself convey to officers commanding all troops reaching Raleigh from west his orders to proceed immediately to Goldsborough. See that quartermasters make necessary railroad arrangements. Acknowledge.

A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 7 [6?], 1865.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Raleigh or Smithfield, N. C.:

Obtain instructions from General Johnston at Fayetteville as to your future movements. Where are operators needed?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 55. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, March 7, 1865.*

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XXIV. Brig. Gen. James Chesnut, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to duty under General Joseph E. Johnston, commanding, &c., and will report accordingly.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 7, 1865—3.30 p. m.*

General RAINS, *Greensborough:*

I wish subterra shells in hands of my cavalry, now between Fayetteville and the Pedee, and beyond Goldsborough near Kinston.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 7, 1865—11.30 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Fayetteville, N. C.:*

On evening of 5th Hampton was at Wadesborough, on way to form junction with Hardee by crossing Pedee at Grassy Island.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 7 [6?], 1865.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Fayetteville, N. C.:*

Have just received copy telegram to you from Hardee, saying he is moving on Greensborough. He has not obeyed my instructions of 26th ultimo. He should be recalled at once to Fayetteville or Raleigh. Shall troops from here be sent to Smithfield or Raleigh?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 7, 1865.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

GENERAL: A report from General Hampton, dated 5 p. m. on the 5th, places the Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps at Sneedsborough and the Fifteenth and Seventeenth at Cheraw, both columns preparing to cross. General Butler's dispatch of the same date puts both farther south, and on the march to Fayetteville. It appears that he is far from their route. His main force should be on it, and if you are on a different one, you require a small cavalry force in your rear. Please give General Butler these instructions as soon as possible. It is of the utmost importance that all our forces unite on the enemy's line of march and in his front. Should you be unable to move on Fayetteville on account of the enemy's progress, the nearest point above at which you can cross the river is at Aven's Ferry, a few miles below the junction of Haw and Deep Rivers. The railroad company (Coal Fields road from here) has at the ferry a small steamer and four large flat-boats. Should an enemy press, you can cross Deep River on a bridge a mile or two from its mouth, and Haw River by means of the steamer and flats. The latter, I am told, will make a length sufficient to form a floating bridge. After crossing the Cape Fear turn down to the Fayetteville and Raleigh road and strike it as near as you well can to the river. It crosses at McNeill's Ferry. Please let me know as soon as possible what route you are taking, and from time to time your progress. Should General Butler and yourself be on different roads, let him give all important information directly to me as well as to you. Should you take the Fayetteville road any stores not required on your march might be sent to Raleigh by Aven's Ferry.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
Near McKinnon's, Thirty-four Miles from Fayetteville,
March 7, 1865—9 p. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of this date received. I had already informed you, in repeated dispatches, of my change of route toward Fayetteville and the progress of my march. My supply train and reserve artillery moved by Carthage road, and reached Carthage to-night. I have ordered Major-General Butler to ascertain the position and movements of the enemy's columns, and to keep directly in front of their line of march. I have heard nothing from General Butler to-day. He should be on the Graham's Bridge road.

Respectfully, your obedient,

W. J. HARDEE,
Major-General.

NEAR GRASSY PLACE FORD,
March 7, 1865—1 p. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

GENERAL: I have succeeded with great difficulty in getting most of my command across the river to-day, and I hope the whole of it will be over to-night. The Fourteenth Corps was crossing at Wall's Ferry last evening, that corps being on the left. Kilpatrick is now at Rockingham. General Wheeler killed ten of his men a few hours ago, and drove the

rest close up to the town. I shall get everything together near here to-night, and then be ready to move as circumstances require. I wish to have Butler with me, so as to operate to more advantage. Can you not let me have a small battery till mine comes up? I am now near Bethel Church, on the road to Rockingham, and three miles below Grassy Island Ford. As soon as my command can be concentrated I shall move round the left flank of the enemy to his front. Do let me hear from you.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WADE HAMPTON.

(Forwarded to General Johnston by General Hardee.)

HDQRS. DEPT OF S. CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA,
Twenty-eight Miles from Fayetteville, March [7?], 1865.

General WADE HAMPTON:

GENERAL: I have just received your dispatch. General Butler is at Bostick's, and has no [doubt] reported to you. If not, order him to do so. I am glad you are across the river. General Johnston wishes you to get in front of the enemy and to move in front of him if he should advance on Fayetteville; if on Wilmington, to "dog his rear a few marches." My command will reach Fayetteville day after to-morrow. I will send Robertson's brigade to join you as soon as I can get hold of it. The last I heard of it it was crossing the Pedee at the railroad bridge, and I hope to find it at Fayetteville. Let me know what can be done to aid you.

With best wishes for your success, I am, very truly,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

P. S.—I will order a battery to join you. I will order it to Monroe's Bridge, there to await your orders.

W. J. H.

P. P. S.—On reading your dispatch again I have decided that your battery will come up before mine can possibly reach you.

W. J. H.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 7, 1865.*

Major-General D. H. HILL, *Smithfield:*

Should General Bragg be about to fight join him for battle. Keep your cars and return the moment it is over. Ascertain if General Bragg can command cars to transport your troops at a moment's notice. Tell me in what time the trip can be made. I beg you to forget the past for this emergency.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CATAWBA, *March 7, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

I will not interfere with pontoon bridge here. Most of animals have been stolen from train. There is pontoon bridge at Hughey's Ferry, opposite Newberry.

S. D. LEE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
General Dockery's House, March 7, 1865.

General HAMPTON:

GENERAL: I think it [will] be advisable at least to keep these roads picketed until the whole command is across the river. General Dockery desires me to say he will be pleased to have you make your quarters at his house to-night. My quarters will be just opposite.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

9 P. M.

General WHEELER:

General Hampton directs me to say that he has already given instructions as you suggest. It is now so late that he must decline General Dockery's kind invitation.

Respectfully,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 7, 1865—11 a. m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Goldsborough:

Sherman is reported by our cavalry marching on this place from Cheraw. Our troops have marched to the north, so there is nothing to impede his march. We shall probably have to concentrate north of this. I think it necessary, therefore, to keep the troops at Smithfield instead of Goldsborough. The difference in time of reaching you by railroad would be trifling. Send trains when fight is impending and send back troops as soon as it is over. General Hill is instructed to join you for battle and return as soon as it is over.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 7, 1865—11 a. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville:

General Hoke, at Kinston, thinks Schofield in his front. A deserter from the enemy yesterday also makes this report. I go down immediately, having arranged to bring on troops rapidly. No delay will occur in making an issue.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 7, 1865—1.30 p. m.*

General B. BRAGG,
Goldsborough:

Consider in your operations in front of Goldsborough that Cheatham's corps, and more than half of Stewart's, are on the way from Chesterville to Smithfield by railroad, and will have the same orders as Hill's troops.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 7, 1865—2 p. m.*

General [BRAXTON BRAGG]:

I have instructed Major-General Hill, at Smithfield, to join you with his troops for a battle. At present they are S. D. Lee's corps, commanded by General Hill, and three brigades of Stewart's. Cheatham's corps, and the remainder of Stewart's, were to leave Chesterville by railroad on Sunday. When they come up Stewart will command, and the force be more than doubled. On the 5th Butler's cavalry was much to the north of the enemy's route, and Hampton's still farther from it, in the direction of Charlotte, the Federal army being then near Cheraw. General Hardee was to the north of Butler. There is, therefore, nothing to delay Sherman's march. I am anxious to concentrate all our troops in his front on this river, in the hope that the Federals may cross it at two points, and then give us an opportunity to fight to an advantage. It seems to me necessary under such circumstances that the Tennessee troops should remain at Smithfield until you have an opportunity to fight; then join you by railroad, and after action return in the same manner to be ready to meet General Hardee. Major-General Hill has been instructed accordingly. I am remaining here to get information of General Hardee's movements.

Most respectfully,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

KINSTON, *March 7, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Fayetteville:

Schofield's corps is reported in our front by several deserters and prisoners. They confront us four miles from here.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

KINSTON, *March 7, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

Col. JOHN B. SALE, *Goldsborough:*

Hurry forward all troops. Send down to the artillery of Hoke's division to march at 2 o'clock. Schofield's corps is in our front and movements indicate attack.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 7, 1865.

Major CAMERON,
Chief Quartermaster:

General Bragg directs that the inclosed orders* be forwarded promptly by some reliable messenger, to be designated by you, on a locomotive to the commanding officer at Smithfield. Transportation must be afforded at once for the transfer of this force, about 5,000, to Kinston. The general desires that no delay will occur in the passage through this point. Please receipt for this and notify me of action.

Very respectfully,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Aide-de-Camp.

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*Not found as inclosures.

KINSTON, *March 7, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

Major CAMERON,
Chief Quartermaster, Goldsborough:

Don't allow a moment to be lost in hurrying forward toops that arrive to-night and to-morrow.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 7, 1865.

The functions and authority of respective chiefs of staff departments are limited strictly to the duties legitimately pertaining to their several departments. When orders are desired to be issued to any command of the army, or to the chiefs of any other staff department, application will be made in writing to the office of the assistant adjutant-general, which alone is the office of orders. This will avoid irregularity, confusion, and conflicting dispositions, as well as hesitation in complying with the order.

By direction of the general commanding:

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 7, 1865.

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE, *Kinston:*

GENERAL: Your letter to Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson, assistant adjutant general, of — instant, in reference to calling in scattering transportation, was duly received by your courier (the bearer of this), and upon return of the commanding general from Raleigh was referred to Major Cameron, chief quartermaster, with appropriate indorsement, complying with your request. Your telegram to Major Cameron of 3d instant, the general directs me to say, has been acted on. It is the one concerning impressment of mules.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 7, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE, *Kinston:*

Will join you this evening, and wish to consult you and Baker. Keep me advised up to 2 p. m. Push all to the front and be ready for a blow.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 7, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE, *Kinston:*

All arrivals will report to you. Move them to position immediately, that no time may be lost after I join. Hagood delayed by accident to a train, but will be up soon.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Kinston, March 7, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. D. H. HILL:

GENERAL: General Bragg directs that you will designate an officer of your command for the purpose of collecting such means of transportation for sick and wounded as the neighboring country will afford.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. S. PARKER,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
March 7, 1865.

Col. T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Commanding, Northeast River, N. C..

COLONEL: General Bragg directs me to inclose to you the accompanying copy of a letter* just received from Governor Vance, and to instruct you to proceed at once to carry into execution the governor's suggestions, adding Sampson County to those named in the letter. Try discreetly to induce owners of able-bodied slaves in these counties to voluntarily conform, if they will. If they will not, then take the slaves by force. Remove them to Raleigh by rail, if necessary, calling for needed transportation for the purpose. It will be supplied, if not imperatively required elsewhere for public use. Report your proceedings to these headquarters. Lose no time. Governor Vance will give employment to the slaves on public works for the State, and doubtless suitable compensation to owners. Have lists carefully prepared of owners and the slaves of each, with descriptions of the latter.

I am, colonel, &c.,

JOHN B. SALE,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 7, 1865.*

Col. T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Commanding at Northeast River, N. C.:

Send the regiment of Senior Reserves to Goldsborough to report to General Baker's headquarters. Transportation will be furnished on telegraphing quartermaster here.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
March 7, 1865.

Col. T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Commanding, &c., Northeast River, N. C.:

COLONEL: General Bragg, commanding, directs that the regiment of Senior Reserves near you be removed by rail to this place at once; quartermaster to furnish transportation on application. I have just telegraphed you to this effect. The two companies of infantry and one of artillery up the Cape Fear River might be cut off in the event of an advance by the enemy this way, either from Wilmington or Kinston. A telegraphic order to-day has been sent to commanding officer at Teachey's Station (intended for yourself), to be sent thence by courier,

* See March 3, p. 1318.

that they march at once to Fayetteville and there report to General Johnston. The other troops under your command (supposed to be the cavalry and home guards), you will hold well in hand, ready to move this way at a moment's notice; but this is not designed to delay your execution of instructions sent you by mail to-day for removing from certain named counties all able-bodied male negroes, as requested by Governor Vance. Proceed with that duty till interrupted by orders to move, keeping yourself prepared to obey the latter.

Very respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 7, 1865.*

COMMANDING OFFICER TEACHEY'S STATION:

Send order by courier to officer commanding two companies of infantry and one of artillery on Cape Fear River, to march direct to Fayetteville and report to General Johnston.

JOHN B. SALE,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 7, 1865.*

Maj. J. L. CROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Kinston:

There was no unnecessary delay in the passage of your troops through this point.

FRANK PARKER,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 7, 1865.

Col. F. M. PARKER,
Commanding, Raleigh, N. C.:

General Bragg directs you keep an officer at depot all night to report to Maj. John W. Cameron arrival and departure of all troops this way and hurry them on to Kinston. Telegraph Maj. W. H. Harvey, superintendent, also the arrival and departure of all trains, so as to avoid collisions. Telegraph the operator at Smithfield also. Keep telegraph office open all night. General Bragg gone to front at Kinston.

JOHN B. SALE,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 7, 1865—12.30 p. m.*

Maj. K. JOHNS, *Raleigh:*

General Johnston directs, by authority Secretary of War, you employ as much force as you can in collecting animals under General Orders, No. 4, present series, in front of enemy and along his line of march.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Send field transportation collecting at Greensborough by county road to Raleigh.

A. A.

(Same to Major Edmonston, Greensborough.)

MARCH 7, 1865—7.30 p. m.

Major HOOPER,
Quartermaster, Raleigh:

Don't allow a moment to be lost in sending forward the troops arriving. They should run through to this point without changing trains. Give a copy of this to commanding officers as they arrive.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 7, 1865.*

TELEGRPAH OPERATOR AT SMITHFIELD, N. C.:

Telegraph Maj. W. H. Harvey of the departure of all trains coming this way, so as to avoid collisions. Keep office open all night.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fayetteville, March 7, 1865.

TO ANY OFFICER COMMANDING CAVALRY
IN FRONT OF FAYETTEVILLE:

General Johnston directs that you furnish Captain McKinney, assistant commissary of subsistence, or his agent, with ten mounted men for the purpose of carrying out the instructions of the War Department in collecting supplies on the enemy's line of march.

Respectfully,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

LUMBERTON, N. C., *March 7, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. F. L. CHILDS,
Commanding, Fayetteville, N. C.:

COLONEL: The dispatch sent by you and dated 11.15 o'clock has been received. Corporal Wright has returned. He saw the advance of the enemy on yesterday about eight miles beyond Floral College. They were going in the direction of Fayetteville. I have made arrangements with Major Norment to destroy the bridge on Lumber River in the event of my being cut off from Fayetteville before those cavalry shall have passed by way of this place. I am not aware that the enemy are advancing by way of this place.

I am, yours, truly,

L. W. CURRIE,
Lieutenant, Commanding Cavalry.

P. S.—Lieutenant Garrason has left here for your headquarters. I am not aware of Lieutenants Hanks' and Banks' whereabouts, so I was unable to send them that dispatch. I expect to fall back toward Fayetteville to-morrow. This dispatch leaves at 7.30 p. m.

L. W. C.

ANTIOCH CHURCH, *March 7, 1865—2 p. m.*

Colonel CHILDS:

COLONEL: The three bridges below Gilchrist's are McEachin's, McGist's, and Campbell's. Distance between McEachin's and Camp-

bell's Bridges is about five miles. I have a line communicating with Colonel Montgomery and from this place to Gilchrist's Bridge to watch the advance to that bridge, notwithstanding it was burned last night. Then I had a line across from this place to the W. J. Brown's, on the Lowry road, so as to get any news of an advance from Lumberton, but as Colonel Montgomery covers that bridge, I have drawn in the ten men on that cross-road to picket a road leading into the McGist's Bridge road. If the courier from Colonel Montgomery brings in any additional news I will send by this or another.

Respectfully, &c.,

MATTHEW P. TAYLOR,
Major Second North Carolina Battalion, Commanding Scout.

Mr. Carmichael reported just now that he saw rosin on the Davis Bridge. I have sent him back to tell the picket not to burn the bridge until he gets an order from me, as Colonel Montgomery will have to cross there as well as myself.

M. P. T.

HDQRS. DETACHMENT FIFTH TENNESSEE CAVALRY,
March 7, 1865.

Major TAYLOR, *Commanding Scouts:*

The enemy reached Laurinburg at 3 p. m. Are burning depot, railroad shops, &c. Have not moved in this direction yet.

J. G. M. MONTGOMERY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DETACHMENT,
March 7, 1865.

Major TAYLOR,
Commanding Cavalry Scouts:

MAJOR: I have moved across from the Stage road to this one in order to secure my retreat by McEachin's Bridge. The enemy are beyond Laurinburg. They are moving on three roads in this direction. As soon as they reach the road running south from Laurel Hill I can then ascertain their course with certainty. I shall cover the three bridges below Gilchrist's and destroy them if the enemy advance this way. When forced I shall fall back to Antioch Church and thence to Davis' Bridge, and will communicate any information I obtain of importance.

Respectfully,

J. G. M. MONTGOMERY,
Lieutenant-Colonel Fifth Tennessee Cavalry.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 7, 1865.*

Governor Z. B. VANCE, *Raleigh, N. C.:*

Letter of 3d received concerning removal of slaves. Colonel Lipscomb is ordered to execute your request, and Sampson County added to the list.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 7, 1865.

His Excellency Governor Z. B. VANCE,
Raleigh, N. C.:

The communication of Kemp P. Battle, esq., of the 6th instant, forwarded by yourself to General Bragg, came to hand to-day after the general had left for the front at Kinston. It will be laid before him whenever he returns. Meantime, as delay may be injurious to the purpose in view, I respectfully suggest that General J. E. Johnston be communicated with on the subject.

I have the honor to be, sir, most respectfully,

JOHN B. SALE,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.
(For General Bragg.)

CHARLOTTE, *March 7, 1865.*
(Received 3 o'clock.)

Hon. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War:

General Johnston being at Fayetteville is not accessible to me. I have had an interview with General Chesnut, commanding Reserves of South Carolina, who is here with a portion of his command and waiting explanation of orders from Richmond. His order to report to General Johnston was executed. Since then he has received General Orders, No. 8, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, February 23, and is undecided as to whether he is to return to South Carolina or remain with General Johnston. If he returns to South Carolina he assures me he can assign a sufficient number of men from the district through which the courier-line is to run who will mount themselves to make the line efficient and reliable without detriment to other branches of the service under his command, provided he is authorized or ordered to do so. General Chesnut asked from General Cooper an explanation of orders. Can the matter be decided at once and General Chesnut be authorized by telegraph to establish the line of couriers?

J. S. THRASHER,
General Superintendent Press Association.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 7, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

Take charge of the transportation of troops, artillery, wagons, &c. Push them through as rapidly as possible. Call upon General Bradley T. Johnson for all the assistance you may need.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 7, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. J. M. KENNARD,
Chief Ordnance Officer, Raleigh, N. C.:

I will give all assistance possible for transportation of said ammunition. Major Willis is now at Salisbury attending to shipment of troops, after which he will attend to the ammunition.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 7, 1865.*

Lieutenant-Colonel NAPIER,
Concord, N. C.:

March your command to Salisbury and call upon Major Willis, quartermaster, for transportation to Fayetteville.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 56. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, March 8, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

XXV. Paragraph XXIV, Special Orders, No. 55, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, is hereby revoked, and Brig. Gen. James Chesnut, Provisional Army, C. S., will return to South Carolina and enter actively upon the duties prescribed in General Orders, No. 8, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series. Such of the reserve forces of South Carolina as may be available will be placed under the orders of General J. E. Johnston, commanding, &c.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 8, 1865—2.30 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE:

Sherman has been marching with extended front. After concentration hope for opportunity to fight his divided troops. If unsuccessful, where can I cross Roanoke, and what route do you prefer? Am told that Ordnance Department has many boats at Clarksville. Want of pontoons great evil. Enemy amply supplied.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 8, 1865—2 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond, Va.:

General Hampton reports from Grassy Island Ford on 6th, at 4 p. m:

Enemy all moved down river in direction of Sneedsborough and Cheraw.

He met only small party cavalry north Wadesborough.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 8, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

I respectfully suggest that Governor Vance and yourself call on the people residing along Sherman's supposed line of march to remove temporarily all their supplies and animals at least twenty miles to the right or left of his flank routes. Their negroes should be employed under proper engineer officers in obstructing roads and fords.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 8, 1865—2 p. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

General Hampton reports from Grassy Island Ford on the 6th, at 4 p. m.:

River being past fording, am crossing at ferries above and will use every exertion to cross everything rapidly as possible and form junction with troops on other side. Enemy all moved down river in direction of Sneedsborough and Cheraw.

He met only small party cavalry north Wadesborough.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

MARCH 8, 1865.

Mr. D. G. MCDUFFIN:

General Joe Johnston wishes to see you at his headquarters at Fayetteville Hotel to inquire of you with regard to the roads and streams between Fayetteville and the railroad to Goldsborough. By calling as early as practicable you will confer a favor.

Respectfully,

H. A. MCSWAIN.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fayetteville, March 8, 1865—4 p. m.

General WADE HAMPTON:

General Johnston has received your dispatch dated 4 p. m. yesterday.* He instructs me to say that it is more important to observe the enemy's right flank than his left in order to prevent his communicating with the coast, and that he desires you to concentrate your main body as soon as possible in the enemy's immediate front. Sherman's advanced cavalry appeared this morning at 11 o'clock, at McEachin's and the neighboring bridges over Lumber River, and drove back the detachment of the Fifth Tennessee, under Lieutenant-Colonel Montgomery, to Antioch Church. This detachment is now the only force known to us between this place and the enemy.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
General Dockery's House, March 8, 1865—12.15 p. m.

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: Your dispatch is received. There is very little forage on the road from Rockingham to Fayetteville, and I think the main column of the enemy will move on the road from Cheraw to Fayetteville, or on roads near to and parallel to that road, as it passes through a fruitful country. As soon as General Allen crosses I will order him on the plank road with instructions to send pickets on the road which runs from Rockingham to Fayetteville and strikes the plank road about twenty miles from Rockingham. I think the road last referred to will be the most northerly on which any column of the enemy will move. I think some of our troops ought to be on the direct road from Cheraw to Fayetteville. Shall I go or send troops there, or will General Butler

* See Hampton to Hardee, p. 1337.

send troops on that road? I will, pursuant to your instructions, keep General Humes, with his five small regiments, in position on this road so that we can successfully meet the enemy should he attempt to push up while General Allen is crossing the river. I will then move General Humes over on the plank road, leaving one regiment to cover General Dibrell while crossing. These are the dispositions which I presume from your note are desired. Should they not be please send me additional instructions by this courier. After leaving the vicinity of the river we will be unable to get corn until we get to Lumber River. There are three bridges over Lumber River, or Drowning Creek. The lower part is called by the former name and upper part by the latter. The high est is Blue's Bridge and is on the plank road running from Rockingham to Fayetteville. McLaws' Bridge is five miles below this, and Gilchrist's Bridge about five miles below McLaws'. The last mentioned is on the direct road from Cheraw to Fayetteville. I think we should take possession of these bridges immediately, before the enemy can take possession of, or citizens destroy, them. There are other bridges below Gilchrist's Bridge which I think we ought to destroy for at least fifteen miles below that point. I inclose a little sketch made from observation, and from information obtained from citizens, which I hope may be of some use to you. I will remain here until [I] receive a reply to this dispatch, as I fear if I move I may fail to get it.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., March 8, 1865.

Brig. Gen. JAMES CHESNUT, *Charlotte, N. C.:*

You will place under the orders of General J. E. Johnston, commanding, such of the reserve forces of South Carolina as are available, and then return to South Carolina and enter actively upon the duties prescribed in General Orders, No. 8, current series, from this office.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 8, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG, *Goldsborough:*

If you move Hill's and Stewart's troops, inform me. It is reported that the enemy was within thirty miles of Fayetteville at noon yesterday. It will soon be necessary to concentrate.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

IN THE FIELD, *March 8, 1865—3.15 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Fayetteville:*

I have only Hill's, and we are now engaged with the enemy—so far successfully.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

[MARCH 8, 1865.—For Bragg to Johnston (7 p. m.), reporting operations at Kinston, see Part I, p. 1078.]

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 8, 1865.*

Maj. L. B. FRENCH,
Richmond, Va.:

Hoke struck enemy's rear at Kinston and captured 1,500 prisoners. So far battle progressing in our favor.

S. V. REID,
Major, &c.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 57. } *Near Kinston, March 8, 1865—12 p. m.*

I. Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill will move immediately to the front with all his command, and take the line now held by Maj. Gen. R. F. Hoke. A staff officer, with guides, will be left to direct such troops as may arrive to the same point.

II. On being relieved Major-General Hoke, with his division, will move to the right, to turn the enemy's position, and strike him in flank.

III. Brig. Gen. L. S. Baker's command during this operation will be under Major-General Hill.

IV. As soon as it is perceived that Major-General Hoke's movement is successful, and that the enemy's line wavers, Major-General Hill will attack vigorously in front and push the enemy with his whole strength.

V. Major-General Hill should be in position so as to enable Major-General Hoke to move by 5 a. m.

VI. On the arrival of Brigadier-General Hagood he will take position in rear of Major-General Hill as a reserve.

VII. Lieutenant Colonel Starr, commanding the artillery, will report to Major-General Hill.

By order of General Bragg:

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR FIELD ORDERS.] IN THE FIELD, *March 8, 1865.*

Any troops arriving to-night must march promptly to field, reporting at headquarters on Dover road.

By order of General Bragg:

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

KINSTON, *March 8, 1865—1.30 p. m.*

Major-General HILL:

Major-General Hoke informs General Bragg that if your forces are pushed down the Neuse road and over to the British road, down which he is driving the enemy, a large force will be captured. General Bragg directs that you make this movement.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. S. PARKER,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
March 8, 1865.

Col. S. D. POOL,
Kinston:

General Bragg directs that you will leave the corps of pontoniers in charge of the bridge train and then return to your post.

I am, colonel, &c.,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 8, 1865—5.30 p. m.*

General BRAGG,
Kinston:

What shall be done with Yankee prisoners coming from Kinston? Eighth Regiment of Senior Reserves probably be here by 10 to-morrow, but unreliable. No shelter here, and they can escape. Might they be forwarded to Salisbury or Raleigh? Answer immediately.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCH 8, 1865.

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Goldsborough:

Send men of Stewart's corps immediately upon arrival to take guide at Kinston, and report on field by daylight.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

NEAR KINSTON, *March 8, 1865.*

Surg. C. H. LADD,
Goldsborough:

Prepare for 300 wounded, in addition to your present accommodations.

T. G. RICHARDSON,
Surgeon and Medical Director.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 8, 1865.*

Colonel CHILDS:

COLONEL: I have just arrived here from Lieutenant-General Hardee's command. He directed me to say to you that he wished you to throw out scouts on the McFarland, Gilchrist, and Bennettsville roads.

I am, colonel, &c.,

JOHN K. JACKSON,
Brigadier-General.

(Forwarded to Col. Archer Anderson, assistant adjutant-general.)

ANTIOCH CHURCH, *March 8, 1865—11 a. m.*

Lieutenant-Colonel CHILDS:

COLONEL: I send you Colonel Montgomery's dispatch just received. I will send any other information that he may send me. About 200

mounted men and four pieces of artillery were reported last night to have gone down the Lowry road toward Fayetteville. I understand (only from negroes) on the Lowry road, this information. He said they passed W. J. Brown's house about sunset and were dressed in blue clothes. He did not know positively whether they were the enemy or our men, but whoever they were, they burned the bridge on the Lowry road across Raft Swamp. I sent Lieutenant Roberts and two men to ascertain the truth of this statement, but he could get no farther than the Raft Swamp bridge, and could not find a man or woman on the road except this negro. All the people are terribly alarmed and have taken to the swamps.

Respectfully, &c.,

MATTHEW P. TAYLOR.
Major, &c.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. DETACHMENT FIFTH TENNESSEE CAVALRY,
McEachin's Bridge, March 8, 1865.

Major TAYLOR:

MAJOR: The enemy, after burning everything at Laurinburg, yesterday evening withdrew again to Springfield, where they encamped in considerable force. They also withdrew from Laurel Hill, going in the same direction. They told the citizens they would visit them again this morning. From the beating of the drums about Springfield I judge their infantry are encamped at that place. If they move this way from Laurinburg or Laurel Hill I will notify you at once.

Respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. G. M. MONTGOMERY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Detachment.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH TENNESSEE CAVALRY,
March 8, 1865.

Major TAYLOR:

MAJOR: The enemy have driven us from all three of the bridges. At the same time it is raining so hard that the damage to the bridge will be slight. I shall retire at once to Antioch Church.

J. G. M. MONTGOMERY,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

All cavalry that I have seen this morning.

ANTIOCH CHURCH, *March 8, 1865—12.30 p. m.*

Lieut. Col. F. L. CHILDS,
Commanding, &c.:

COLONEL: Just received the above. The courier who brought this says Colonel Montgomery is on this side of Drowning Creek, and Colonel Montgomery will be here in about an hour.

MATTHEW P. TAYLOR,
Major, &c.

[MARCH 9, 1865.—For Lee to Breckinridge, relating to operations at Kinston, N. C., see Part I, p. 1045.]

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 9, 1865—8 a. m.*

General R. E. LEE:
(Via Richmond.)

Following received:*

Colonel Sale, at Goldsborough, reports 1,000 prisoners arrived there and 500 on the way, and that fight would be renewed to-day.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 9, 1865—11 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

Brigadier-General Evans has reported for duty in your department. I have referred him to you. I consider him incompetent to command, and had so reported him to War Department last spring.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 9, 1865—11.30 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

Stewart's troops passed through here yesterday. Cheatham's are now moving, and all will probably have passed through to-morrow evening. I will follow next day.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 9, 1865—12.30 p. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

Governor Brown has ordered his militia from Augusta to Columbus and West Point to meet threatened attack from Middle Tennessee, furloughing them a while. This transfer may jeopardize East Georgia and our lines of communication hence to Augusta, Atlanta, and Macon. I have ordered General Young to remain about Augusta to protect them. A good major-general should be sent there at once to replace General Hill, who is now with his command. I am informed he would not be acceptable again to the people.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS C. S. ARMIES,
March 9, 1865.

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE,
Governor of North Carolina, Raleigh:

GOVERNOR: I received your letter of the 2d instant, and return you my sincere thanks for your zealous efforts in behalf of the army and the cause. I have read with pleasure and attention your proclamation and appeal to the people, as also extracts from your addresses. I trust you will infuse into your fellow-citizens the spirit of resolution and patriotism which inspires your own action. I have now no cavalry to spare for the purpose you mention, and regret that I did not receive

* See Bragg to Johnston, March 8, 7 p. m., Part I, p. 1078.

the suggestion at an earlier period. I think it a very good one and would have been glad to adopt it. I have sent a force of infantry, under Brigadier-General Johnston (R. D.), to guard the line of the Roanoke, and operate as far as practicable in the adjacent counties to arrest deserters. Another detachment of 500 men, under Colonel McAlister, has been sent to Chatham and Moore Counties, in which the bands of deserters were represented to be very numerous. They will, however, operate in other quarters as occasion may require. They are instructed to take no prisoners among those deserters who resist with arms the civil or military authorities. I hope you will raise as large a force of local troops to co-operate with them as you can, and think that the sternest course is the best with the class I have referred to. The immunity which these lawless organizations afford is a great cause of desertion, and they cannot be too sternly dealt with. I hope you will be able to aid General Johnston, who needs all the re-enforcements you can give him. If he can check the progress of General Sherman the effect would be of the greatest value. I hope the late success of General Bragg near Kinston will revive the spirits of the people and render your labors less arduous. The conduct of the widow lady whom you mentioned deserves the highest commendation. If all our people possessed her spirit our success I should feel to be assured.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 9, 1865.*

His Excellency Governor VANCE,
Raleigh:

General Bragg reports that he attacked the enemy four miles from Kinston yesterday; drove them back three miles, taking several hundred prisoners and killing and wounding a large number. Our own loss comparatively small. Colonel Sale, at Kinston, reports this morning 1,000 prisoners arrived and 500 coming. Major-General Cox, [who] was at Wilmington, commanding Federal troops. General Bragg extols Major-Generals Hill and Hoke and their troops.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 9, 1865—2.15 a. m.*

Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fayetteville, N. C.:

This telegram just received from Kinston, 8th, 7 p. m.:*

About 1,000 prisoners arrived here to-night; more on way—said to be 500. Three hundred and fifty men Colbert's command, Loring's division, arrived and left for Kinston 5.45 p. m. yesterday. My unofficial dispatch to you stated all Loring's here. Colbert said it was [on] trains close behind. So said Smithfield operator also. Am now informed it has not reached Raleigh. Is Stewart's corps ordered here? It is much needed. Fight to be renewed this morning.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*See Bragg to Johnston, March 8, 7 p. m., ending with "Our troops behaved most handsomely," Part I, p. 1078.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 9, 1865—6 p. m.*

Lieut. Col. A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:
(Care of General Johnston, Fayetteville.)

General Bragg's instructions now changed. He telegraphs operations not decided, and to press forward all troops ordered by General Johnston. I have telegraphed accordingly to Raleigh and Smithfield, though they come scantily. Where is Sherman, and whither do his demonstrations tend?

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 9, 1865—2.15 a. m.*

Colonel HARVIE,
Inspector-General, Army of Tennessee, Raleigh, N. C.:

Three hundred and fifty men Colbert's command, Stewart's corps, arrived and went to Kinston 5.45 p. m. yesterday. Is balance that corps ordered here by General Johnston? They are much needed immediately at Kinston to continue the fight of yesterday, which is thus far successful.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 9, 1865—6.30 a. m.*

Col. E. J. HARVIE,
Raleigh:

General Johnston directs all troops passing Raleigh be immediately sent forward to Kinston. Acknowledge.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 9, 1865.*

Col. E. J. HARVIE,
Inspector-General, Army of Tennessee, Raleigh, N. C.:

When as many as 1,000 of Stewart's corps shall have passed General Bragg wants no more at present. The balance may be stopped at Smithfield.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 9, 1865—5.45 p. m.*

Col. E. J. HARVIE,
Inspector-General, Army of Tennessee:

Instructions from General Bragg changed since my last dispatch. Now hurry forward all troops to Kinston. Operation there not closed.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 9, 1865—6.30 a. m.*

OPERATOR AT SMITHFIELD:

Convey to any officer commanding troops arriving at Smithfield this, General Johnston's, order to proceed immediately to Kinston. Acknowledge.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 9, 1865.*

OPERATOR AT SMITHFIELD:

When about 1,000 have passed this way, including the 350 yesterday, under Colonel Colbert, stop all others at Smithfield. If Loring's division exceeds this number let it all come. Show this to officers commanding.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 9, 1865—5.45 p. m.*

OPERATOR AT SMITHFIELD:

Instructions now changed. Hurry on all troops to Kinston. Show this to Colonel Burr, Captain Brewer, and other officers commanding troops arrived and to arrive. How many troops now at Smithfield? Is any transportation from here needed? Answer immediately.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Memorandum for Lieutenant-General Hardee.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 9, 1865—3.30 p. m.*

To prepare a crossing for Lieutenant-General Hampton and send him information. To remain here as long as practicable without compromising the safety of his command, in order to delay the enemy. When he leaves to move by the Raleigh road on the east bank of Cape Fear. If it is not practicable to destroy a portion of the bridge merely to burn it. To keep a few picked scouts to observe the enemy's movements between the Fayetteville railroad and river. His object will be to keep between the enemy and Raleigh, and his movements directed accordingly. To do all he can to delay the enemy's passage of the river in order that our forces may be concentrated as near it as possible. Remove all able-bodied negroes, saddle and draft animals, and means of transportation.

By order of General Johnston:

A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MCNEILL'S HOUSE,
March 9, 1865—11.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE, *Fayetteville:*

GENERAL: The troops of the Army of Tennessee are collecting at Smithfield. The memorandum furnished you to-day respecting your movements was based on the idea of the enemy's moving on

Raleigh, but they may move toward Goldsborough or some other point east of Raleigh. In such an event I am directed by the commanding general to say you should move toward Smithfield in order to secure a junction with the rest of our forces. In general, it is important that you should be as near the enemy's line of march as possible, which will enable us to unite the other troops with yours. In the memorandum the small arms and cartridges at Jonesborough were unintentionally omitted.

Respectfully, &c.,

A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MEMORANDUM ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS,
Fayetteville, March 9, 1865.

This command will take position early to-morrow morning about three miles from Fayetteville, as follows: McLaws' division covering or occupying the McFarland's Bridge road and all roads on the right of it to Cape Fear River, Taliaferro's division covering or occupying the Gilchrist and McEachin's Bridge road and all roads on the left of it to Cape Fear River. All vehicles not indispensable to the command will be sent to-morrow morning over the river in charge of competent officers and will encamp (the division trains separately) two or three miles on the Raleigh road. Division commanders will no longer allow their trains to be encumbered with buggies, carts, or any description of vehicles not belonging to the public transportation of the army and will impress for public service all animals in or traveling with their respective commands, in the hands of parties not entitled to have horses, and all in excess of the regular allowance in the hands of officers or soldiers entitled to have horses and to draw forage. Lieut. Col. Del. Kemper will take charge of the reserve artillery and proceed with it across Cape Fear River early to-morrow morning, and encamp about two miles on the Raleigh road.

By order of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCH 9, 1865—7 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

GENERAL: Camped last night at Johnsonville. Everything is getting on well. Will stop three or four miles out of Fayetteville to-night, unless you otherwise direct. There are 103 four-horse wagons and 32 two-horse wagons in this train. This includes the wagons belonging to the reserve artillery. Captain Gilchrist says he is "in my rear with eighteen mounted men to protect me;" therefore myself and train are saved, and will certainly make our appearance in Fayetteville.

Respectfully,

SAML. L. BLACK,
Major, &c.

[MARCH 9, 1865.—For Wheeler to McClellan (two dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, pp. 1124, 1125.]

CHARLOTTE, *March 9, 1865.*
(Received 12.40 10th.)

General S. COOPER:

Telegram of 8th instant received. Will proceed immediately to execute its order. There is not a piece of artillery in South Carolina in our possession to enable me to discharge my duty and hold the State. I earnestly pray you will send me, without delay, a battery of light artillery. I will mount as far as possible the reserve forces left in South Carolina for active service. Am without artillery, cavalry arms, or ammunition. Will do what I can.

JAS. CHESNUT, JR.,
Brigadier-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 9, 1865—9 a. m.*

General B. BRAGG, *Kinston:*

I congratulate you upon the victory of yesterday, which the army and the country will appreciate. Cox's troops are from Wilmington, where he and Terry commanded corps under Schofield.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

MARCH 9, 1865.

Col. J. B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Goldsborough:

Send on no more troops after the 1,000 of Stewart's.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 9, 1865—11.20 a. m.*

General BRAGG, *Kinston:*

I have not communicated to General Johnston your dispatch stopping all Stewart's corps except the 1,000 named. Orders sent to Smithfield to stop them there. Just received dispatch from General Johnston that all passing Raleigh are ordered to you.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR KINSTON, *March 9, 1865.*

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Let all the troops ordered here by General Johnston be pressed forward to this point.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 9, 1865—12 m.*

General BRAGG,
Kinston, N. C.:

Captain Chesnut, commanding squadron Lipscomb's cavalry at Richlands, Onslow County, reported to commanding officer at Duplin's on 8th: "Enemy advancing in force from Wilmington, with infantry,

cavalry, and artillery, as far as the Golden place, between Northeast River and the sound, on Jacksonville road." This road leads toward Kinston. The dispatch was sent by Colonel McKoy to Magnolia to be telegraphed here. No office being there, it was lost. McKoy communicates it to me verbally. It is not known how reliable the report is. A gentleman here from Onslow Court-House yesterday heard nothing of it there.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR KINSTON, *March 9, 1865—2.15 p. m.*

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Goldsborough:

Should Raleigh be threatened, move by rail to Greensborough or Salisbury, taking the records and baggage from Goldsborough and Raleigh. Take Riall if he continues unwell.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

NEAR KINSTON, *March 9, 1865—4.30 p. m.*

Major CAMERON,
Goldsborough:

Operations here not yet decided. Do not hold your transportation unemployed, but be prepared to call it in at short notice.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

MARCH 9, 1865.

Major CAMERON,
Goldsborough:

Transportation and artillery must not come here.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

MARCH 9, 1865.

Major CAMERON,
Chief Quartermaster, Goldsborough:

See Colonel Sale for estimate of forces you ask Colonel Gordon for.

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

KINSTON, *March 9, 1865—8.30 p. m.*

Major CAMERON,
Goldsborough:

Hold ready necessary transportation for transfer of troops from Kinston.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

NEAR KINSTON, *March 9, 1865.*

Major-General Hoke will move to the attack immediately, advancing his left flank and gradually taking up the movement to the right, thus making an oblique assault on the enemy. His command will keep well

closed to the right, so as not to leave an interval. Major-General Hill will take up the attack as soon as General Hoke is fairly engaged. The attack must be vigorous and determined, as success must be achieved.

By order of General Bragg:

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCH 9, 1865—4.20 p. m.

Major-General HILL:

General Bragg has just heard from Major-General Hoke, and he directs me to notify you that at any moment Hoke's guns may be heard.

Respectfully, general,

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

KINSTON, *March 9, 1865—6.15 p. m.*

Major-General HILL:

General Bragg directs me to say that Major-General Hoke will confer with you in regard to the return of Hagood's brigade to his division, which is desired, and the movement proposed for the morning, during which you will retain your present position in the lines.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCH 9, 1865.

The officer commanding detachment Stewart's corps will, upon his arrival, leave a guard of fifty men, with their officers, to police the town of Kinston and collect all stragglers.

By order of General Bragg:

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 9, 1865.*

Colonel MALLETT,
Commanding Conscripts, Raleigh:

See Special Orders, No. 46, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, and late exchange notice. General Johnston requests that you immediately telegraph to all your officers to forward all soldiers so declared exchanged immediately to this or General Lee's army.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FAYETTEVILLE, *March 9, 1865.*

T. J. SUMNER,
Superintendent North Carolina Railroad, Company's Shops:

It is desired to place all troops coming east over your road as rapidly as possible at Kinston. I ask your assistance to accomplish this result.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 9, 1865.*

General HAMPTON,
Fayetteville, N. C.:
(Care of General Hardee.)
Sabers shipped from Greensborough to Raleigh.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[MARCH 10, 1865.—For Lee to Breckinridge, reporting engagement at Monroe's Cross-Roads, S. C., see Part I, p. 1045.]

RALEIGH, *March 10, 1865—4.30 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE,
Richmond:

Governor Magrath calls for the Cadets and militia of South Carolina, with General Hardee, to protect the State against threatened raid from East Tennessee. Shall they be sent? Brigadier-General Robertson's command, 1,000 strong, was cut off, and is now in South Carolina.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

RALEIGH, *March 10, 1865—10.45 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE:

General Bragg reports that enemy intrenched himself in position to which he was driven on 8th and, therefore, he had not been dislodged; also heavy force moving on his right and rear from Wilmington. He is, therefore, called back. Lieutenant-General Hardee reports Sherman's army seven miles from Fayetteville, and that he will cross the Cape Fear to-night, together with General Hampton. The troops of the Tennessee army are without field transportation.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 10, 1865—10 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville, N. C., or wherever he may be:

Sending trains to Goldsborough retards shipment of troops from Chester. Please order trains returned soon as practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 10, 1865—1.45 p. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

Governor Magrath applied for return of his Cadets and militia. General Lee objected to General Garlington's force not having been brought out of the State with Stevenson's command.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

AUGUSTA, *March 10, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, or
G. T. BEAUREGARD:

(Care Comdg. Officer Charlotte, to be sent with cipher dispatch.)

Have read General Taylor's cipher. Have about 5,000 men here organized. Trains arriving. Hope to start for Charlotte with trains, &c., in about five days. Delays now occasioned by heavy rains and non-arrival of pontoons.

S. D. LEE,
Lieutenant-General.

AUGUSTA, *March 10, 1865.*

Lieut. Gen. R. TAYLOR, *Meridian:*

Colonel Brent gone. Trains of army now arriving. Troops can march for army east of this point. Are organized and being organized for that purpose. I will start in about five days with trains and command of 5,000. This in reply to yours of 8th to Colonel Brent. Will forward cipher dispatch of 8th. Telegraphic communication perfect between Columbus and Charlotte.

S. D. LEE,
Lieutenant-General.

RALEIGH, *March 10, 1865—5.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE, *Fayetteville:*

Keep your reserve artillery about fifteen miles in your rear, provided it can be subsisted on the country, so as to bring it into action, if necessary. Where is General Hampton?

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

RALEIGH, *March 10, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE, *Fayetteville:*

Do what you can to impede enemy, with Hampton's help. Send dispatches either by Smithfield or Barbee's.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 10, 1865—1.30 p. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

Please send me copy of my telegram from Columbia, S. C., ordering evacuation of Charleston, dated, I think, 16th February.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

Memoranda.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fayetteville, N. C., March 10, 1865.

The troops will proceed across the Cape Fear River to-night in the following order: Artillery and wagons immediately; Blanchard's bri-

gade, of McLaws' division, at 8 p. m., and halt three miles on Raleigh road; Goodwyn's brigade, of Taliaferro's division, at 8.30 p. m.; remainder of Taliaferro's division at 9.30; remainder of McLaws' division at 10.30. The infantry will proceed about three miles on the Raleigh road and halt. Lieutenant-General Hampton will cover the march with his cavalry and will cross the river when compelled to retire. He is charged with the destruction of the bridge when his command shall have passed over.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS WHEELER'S CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, N. C., March 10, 1865.

Col. R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

COLONEL: I embrace the first opportunity which has offered to let you know that I am with General Wheeler's corps (after a long and tedious trip around the flank of Sherman's army), engaged in the execution of my orders. Thus far I have seen but little to condemn and much to commend, both on the march and in action. As the command is constantly moving I have but little opportunity to see the practical application of orders and drill, but expect to be able before I leave to give full and complete information of this command. Sherman is moving rapidly, and will probably occupy Fayetteville to-morrow, as our infantry is evacuating it while I am writing. I think, from present indications, that Sherman designs forming a junction with Schofield at Goldsborough, using New Berne as a base of supplies. I am writing by a camp-fire with my paper on my knee, and as I am completely exhausted, will close. I will write you again when I can announce some definite results.

I am, colonel, respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. E. PORTLOCK, JR.,
Colonel and Assistant Inspector-General.

P. S.—In consequence of the uncertain mail communications, I have taken the liberty of inclosing a letter, which I will thank you to have sent to the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office.

E. E. P., JR.

KINSTON, *March 10, 1865—2.10 a. m.*

Governor VANCE, *Raleigh:*

I am under obligation for your offer, but our loss is so small as not to require additional medical officers or supplies

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RALEIGH, *March 10, 1865—9.30 a. m.*

General B. BRAGG, *Kinston:*

Sherman may reach Fayetteville to-day. In your operations consider that all troops must be concentrated in his front, south of Raleigh and Goldsborough Railroad. We are not well informed. Want of pontoons keeps cavalry out of position.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

NEAR KINSTON, *March 10, 1865—3.45 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh:*

The enemy is strongly intrenched in the position to which we drove him. Yesterday and to-day we have moved on his flanks, but without gaining any decided advantage. His line is extensive, and prisoners report large re-enforcements. Under these conditions I deem it best, with the information you give, to join you, which I shall proceed to do, unless otherwise directed.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

NEAR KINSTON, *March 10, 1865—5 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh:*

My cavalry is retreating before a heavy column of the enemy now in Onslow County, moving from Wilmington on my right and rear. Deserters from Wilmington confirm this report.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

NEAR KINSTON, *March 10, 1865—6 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh:*

There is no doubt about the movement of a heavy column from Wilmington in this direction. Will you have any means of delaying Sherman so as to enable me to save supplies, or must the junction be immediate?

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RALEIGH, *March 10, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

General B. BRAGG, *Kinston:*

Dispatches 3.45 and 4 p. m. received. Your first move had better be to Goldsborough.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

RALEIGH, *March 11 [10?], 1865—10.30 p. m.*

General B. BRAGG, *Kinston:*

Lieutenant-General Hardee reports from Fayetteville Federal army within seven miles. Intends to cross river to-night. Cavalry will cross in the morning. Move immediately to Smithfield. What amount of transportation have you? Bring all you can.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

KINSTON, *March 10, 1865—11.15 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh:*

Troops in motion. We have field transportation for 10,000, but it is much scattered, collecting supplies. Will be called in immediately.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

KINSTON, *March 10, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Fayetteville and Barbee's:

Orders had issued not to hold waiting transportation necessary elsewhere, and are repeated.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 10, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:
(Care General Johnston, Raleigh, N. C.)

Your instructions of yesterday have been obeyed about trains intended to be delayed for a short emergency. Superintendent of North Carolina Railroad was very much mistaken in his telegram reported by you. Last of Stewart's corps passed to Kinston this morning. Skirmishing there last night.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 10, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:
(Care of General Johnston, Raleigh, N. C.)

Colonel Roy, assistant adjutant-general, telegraphed yesterday Sherman's advance very near Fayetteville. Scouts' reports and citizens' seem to indicate Twenty-third Corps moved northward from Wilmington on Monday, destination either Kinston or Goldsborough, marching rapidly. If for Kinston, it probably reached there yesterday evening; if Goldsborough, it is near here. Whether we are successful or not at Kinston, I suppose we soon move toward Fayetteville. I respectfully submit that all trains sent hence to Greensborough cannot return on close schedule time without accident or detention, under four days after the issue will probably be decided at Kinston. This suggestion made in General Bragg's absence and on account of the emergency.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 10, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.
(Care of General Johnston, Raleigh, N. C.)

Lipscomb's cavalry at Northeast River, headquarters Rocky Point. One squadron, under Captain Chesnut, at Richlands, Onslow County. The movemen from Wilmington was on the Sound road, and first reported by Chesnut at Richlands. Following dispatch this moment received from General Bragg:

Send no more troops nor supplies to Kinston. Send all transportation as rapidly as possible.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 10, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:
(Care General Johnston, Raleigh, N. C.)

Following dispatch addressed here to Brigadier-General Baker, from Col. W. F. Martin, commanding at Wilson, this date:

Colonel Wynne, at Franklin, reports enemy 1,200 or 1,500 strong, cavalry, infantry, and artillery, attempting to cross Blackwater. Have small boats with them for the purpose. He asks for re-enforcements. A later dispatch, 5.30 p. m., says they have crossed.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR KINSTON, *March 10, 1865—2.10 a. m.*

Major CAMERON,
Chief Quartermaster, Goldsborough:

The transportation must not be kept unemployed. Let such as needed go with supplies for Army of Northern Virginia.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 20. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA, *Kinston, March 10, 1865.*

The general congratulates the troops of his command upon the success which has attended their operations in front of Kinston. Their patient endurance of privation and hardship, and their gallantry in action have met his expectations and won his gratitude. Fully able to maintain their position, and finally to beat their foe, more important work calls a large portion of them to a distant field, and necessarily suspends offensive operations in this quarter. To Major-Generals Hill and Hoke and Brigadier-General Baker, exercising separate commands, the general returns his cordial thanks for the able, prompt, and gallant support he has received.

By order of General Bragg:

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 59. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, *Kinston, March 10, 1865.*

I. Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, commanding troops from Army of Northern Virginia, will move with them early to-morrow morning by highway to Goldsborough. Such as are unable to march will be immediately sent to the depot for transportation by rail.

II. Maj. Gen. R. F. Hoke, with his own division and Brigadier-General Baker's command, will cross the Neuse to-morrow, destroying the communication in his rear. He will forward to Goldsborough, as rapidly as possible, by rail, all disabled men and valuable stores, and move with his command to that point as soon as this object is accomplished. Such supplies as cannot be transported by daylight on 12th instant or issued to the troops must be destroyed, and the command will march, via Goldsborough, to Smithfield.

III. The Sixth North Carolina Cavalry and Captain Chesnut's squadron, Second South Carolina Cavalry, will report to Major-General Hoke.

IV. The different staff departments at the post of Kinston will leave, under Major-General Hoke's orders, by rail.

V. Captain Price, C. S. Navy, commanding C. S. steamer Neuse, is desired to cover Major-General Hoke's movements, and if practicable before sacrificing his vessel, to move down the river by way of diversion, and make the loss of his vessel as costly to the enemy as possible.

VI. Headquarters will be removed to Goldsborough to-morrow.

By order of General Bragg:

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, March 10, 1865.

All of the sick and wounded capable of being transported will be sent by railroad promptly from Kinston to Goldsborough. Put in motion for Kinston all trains, sick and wounded, and supplies not necessary for immediate use. Collect all stragglers and be ready for orders.

By order of General Bragg:

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copies to Generals Hoke, Hill, and Baker, with postscript: The commanding general desires to see you as soon as you can leave your command.)

HEADQUARTERS,
Kinston, March 10, 1865.

Major-General HOKE:

General Bragg desires that you will reunite all of the troops composing Brigadier-General Baker's command.

Very respectfully,

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Kinston, March 10, 1865.

Major HUGHES,
Quartermaster, Hoke's Division:

General Bragg directs that you immediately render all assistance with your wagons to the post quartermaster for the removal of stores and supplies to the railroad depot.

Very respectfully,

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Near Kinston, March 10, 1865—6.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. L. S. BAKER,
Commanding Second District:

General Bragg directs that you give to staff officers necessary instructions for disposition for burning all cotton about Kinston and Goldsborough which cannot be taken away.

Very respectfully, &c.,

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 10, 1865—12.25 a. m.*

General BRAGG,
Kinston, N. C.:

This dispatch just received from Hardee's adjutant-general, dated Fayetteville, 9th, 10 p. m.:

Colonel SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Johnston left this evening for Raleigh. A telegram would reach him to-morrow morning at Barbee's; evening at Raleigh. Indications are, Sherman is moving upon Fayetteville. His advance very near here.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 10, 1865—4.45 a. m.*

General BRAGG,
Kinston, N. C.:

Troop train with General Walthall and 354 men leaving now for Kinston. Many of them lack cartridge-boxes and some lack arms. Have just started a train to Smithfield for 100 more. Cheatham ought to be at Raleigh, but not yet heard from.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

KINSTON, *March 10, 1865—9.35 a. m.*

Colonel SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Goldsborough:

The enemy's strength and natural advantages of position prevented us from dislodging him yesterday.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 10, 1865—1 p. m.*

General BRAGG, *Kinston:*

More confirmation of Chesnut's reports. Last night a well-known, credible gentleman came to Warsaw from Lake Catherine, and this morning sent information here by messenger that a corps of infantry, three regiments of cavalry, with artillery, staid at Lake Catherine Wednesday night, having staid Tuesday night at Stump Sound, alias Golden Place. They had marched rapidly. Lake Catherine is about

thirty miles from Kinston and same from Warsaw. They are therefore either closely approaching Goldsborough direct, or have joined those in your front by this. I fear the former. Chesnut was at Richlands, above Lake Catherine.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Goldsborough, March 10, 1865.

General BRAGG, *Kinston*.

DEAR SIR: Yankee deserters, sent here this morning by Colonel Lipscomb, who seem on cross-examination to speak truthfully, say that Twenty-third Corps left Wilmington Monday, going northward, they heard to Goldsborough. They left Wilmington on the same road. They did not observe artillery, but cavalry (said to be 800 or 900) had recently landed and preceded the infantry on that road. The cavalry marched as soon as arrived at Wilmington. It was currently stated in Wilmington that 10,000 more cavalry from Virginia were coming. The deserters left Wilmington on Monday also. They had been landed from Boston as recruits on Friday previous, and did not know the names or strength of organizations, nor much about military movements. Terry remained in Wilmington. Schofield was said to command the marching column. They did not know him. All cavalry landing leave immediately on Sound road. This tallies precisely, as far as it goes, with Captain Chesnut's report, who commands squadron of cavalry posted near Richlands, in upper part of Onslow County. From Wilmington to Golden Place (alias Stump Sound) is twenty-five miles, about; thence to Lake Catherine about twenty-seven; thence to Kinston on north or Warsaw on railroad, about same. A Mr. Lemuel Hodges, of Lake Catherine, came thence last night to Warsaw, whence he sent a Mr. Frederick by train this morning with information that a corps of infantry, with three regiments cavalry, and artillery, staid Tuesday night at Golden Place and Wednesday night at Lake Catherine. Hodges fled and came to Warsaw with the information last night (Thursday), as I have said. They were marching rapidly. If they are re-enforcements for the New Berne force they are by this time in your front, I guess, or soon will be. But they may be destined for Goldsborough, which I am led to fear from the fact that that would hurt us most. By taking the somewhat circuitous route of Sound road, they flank Lipscomb and put Holly Shelter Swamp between them and him and cover their movement from him. From Lake Catherine to Goldsborough, it appears on map to be about fifty miles. My only hope against this hypothesis is that Captain Chesnut's squadron is near Richlands on the route. He ought to cover both Goldsborough and Kinston. If Goldsborough is the point they are near here now.

In great haste, &c.,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

KINSTON, *March 10, 1865—9.35 a. m.*

Colonel LIPSCOMB, *Duplin's:*

If you will not require the battery artillery it had best be sent back to Goldsborough.

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Goldsborough, March 10, 1865.

Col. T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Second South Carolina Cavalry:

Your dispatch per Private Hutchinson is received, with the 3 Yankee deserters, 2 prisoners, and 1 runaway negro, who have been turned over to provost-marshal. The report of Captain Chesnut of 8th instant was forwarded to General Bragg. It seems to be confirmed by private reports since received to date, as well as by the deserters you sent. The private information is to effect that one corps of infantry, three regiments of cavalry, with artillery, camped Tuesday night at Goldon Place and Wednesday night at Lake Catherine. They are evidently destined to re-enforce the enemy in front of Kinston (confronted by our forces), or are moving directly upon Goldsborough. Each place is equally distant from Lake Catherine, or nearly so. If the former, they have already joined the enemy's force there; if the latter, they are near here now. I would fear the latter but for the fact that by Captain Chesnut's report he seems to be at Richlands, directly in their track by either place, and he has not informed us here further of them. Please advise us where your detachments are posted, so that it may be known what points are under observation. If Goldsborough is the destination, the movement by the Sound road is intended to cover the expedition from yourself by putting Holly Shelter Swamp between you and them. You will still obey the direction of the commanding general, contained in my written dispatch to you of 7th instant, to send orders by courier to officer commanding the two companies of infantry and one of artillery posted up Cape Fear River. General Johnston has left Fayetteville for Raleigh, but General Hardee is there, and they will report to him for the time being. You ask for supplies to be sent to you by rail twice or thrice a week. You do not say whether you want forage for horses, or subsistence for your men, nor do you give the number of men or horses to be supplied. Inform me by telegraph or otherwise. Major Cameron, chief quartermaster, Department of North Carolina, says he has given the necessary orders for your forage to be sent down as you requested, and a proper extract from your letter has been referred to Major Reid, chief commissary.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR KINSTON, *March 10, 1865.*

Colonel LIPSCOMB, *Teachey's:*

Move with your command rapidly to Raleigh by nearest practicable highway road.

FRANK PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to Colonel Burr, Magnolia.)

KINSTON, *March 10, 1865—9.35 a. m.*

Colonel BURR, *Magnolia:*

Keep us advised of the direction of enemy's advance, and communicate his movements to Lipscomb.

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCH 10, 1865.

Colonel BURR, *Magnolia:*

Dispatches received. Ellis' battery must accompany your march. Captain Crenshaw must proceed by railroad with his stores to Goldsborough.

F. S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, March 10, 1865.

Colonel WHITFORD, *President Railroad:*

COLONEL: General Bragg desires that you will hold available at Kinston all the means of transportation on your railroad.

Very respectfully,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 10, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

Have telegraphed General Johnston to order trains to Salisbury soon as practicable. I approve of your issue to destitute troops.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 10, 1865—10 a. m.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

Have telegraphed for cars to be returned as soon as practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 10, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

Endeavor to secure trains from the Western North Carolina extension and Raleigh and Gaston Railroad.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 10, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

There are still 455 horses, 54 wagons, and about 2,000 men to ship from Chester. You want about 55 cars.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[MARCH 11, 1865.—For Lee to Breckinridge, relating to operations in North Carolina, &c., see Part I, p. 1045.]

RALEIGH, *March 11, 1865.*

Hon. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War, Richmond:

I have directed Lieutenant-General Holmes to call out the Reserves and detailed men subject to his orders, and ask your approval.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

[MARCH 11, 1865.?]

General JOHNSTON:

I fear I cannot hold my position if road to Raleigh is interrupted. Should you be forced back in this direction both armies would certainly starve. You must judge what the probabilities will be of arresting Sherman by battle. If there is a reasonable probability I would recommend it. A bold and unexpected attack might relieve us.

R. E. LEE,
General.

RALEIGH, *March 11, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE,
General-in-Chief:

GENERAL: Lieutenant-General Hardee, then at Fayetteville, informed me by telegraph last night that General Sherman's army was within seven miles of the place; that he would cross the river during the night, and Lieutenant-General Hampton this morning. The closing of the telegraph office has indicated the evacuation of the place. General Bragg reported at the same time that he had not dislodged the enemy from the position which he took after the action of the 8th, the strength of the intrenched position and re-enforcements to the enemy making it impracticable. A strong body of troops was also marching by the coast road to join Cox's command. He is, therefore, falling back, instructed to halt at Goldsborough. It seems to me probable that General Sherman intends to unite the troops near Kinston with his own army. If he moves toward Goldsborough for this object, I hope to be able to concentrate our forces there to attack Cox. By the slow working of the railroad the Tennessee troops are not all up yet, although the movement commenced eight days ago.

Should the Federal army move upon Raleigh from Fayetteville, the course of the Cape Fear might conceal his movements to within thirty miles of the place, and prevent my meeting it near the river, where its columns are most likely to be separated.

Generals Holmes and Gatlin tell me that the country between Raleigh and Clarksville will sustain no considerable body of troops, and that to reach the Roanoke it would be necessary to direct our march at least as low on the river as Gaston. The chief commissary, however, reports the country along most of the route to Clarksville abundant. I think that my course ought to depend much upon your situation. In a battle with Sherman on equal ground the chances would be decidedly against us. Hardee's troops have seen little real service, and have among the superior officers few who have shown themselves competent to their grades. Their present organization is new—made when Charleston was evacuated. The Army of Tennessee is represented to be in great need of reorganization. Their best general officers were lost at Franklin and Nashville. Lieutenant General Hardee's force at Cheraw was, including 1,000 South Carolina reserves and militia, about

10,000. There have been many deserters since. General Bragg estimated his at about 7,000. His loss was about 500 in the recent engagement. General Beauregard estimated the effective total of the Army of Tennessee at 6,700. Our cavalry is better and more numerous than that of the enemy, and is under a much abler commander. The Federal army is supposed by our officers to amount to about 45,000. I have no other means of estimating its strength. Under such circumstances I will not give battle to Sherman's united army, unless your situation may require such a course; but will if I can find it divided. Of this please advise me. I need not say that your opinions will have a control equal to that of your official authority. Should Sherman and Cox unite, their march into Virginia cannot be prevented by me. In that event, if I understand your letter of February 23, you will meet us at the southern edge of Virginia to give battle. Would it be practicable, instead, to hold one of the inner lines of Richmond with one part of your army, and meet Sherman with the other, returning to Richmond after fighting? I should be glad to know as much as you think it prudent to communicate of the effect upon your position of the interruption by the Federal army of the railroad by Raleigh. If the possession of the road by Raleigh is necessary for the subsistence of your army, unless it is improper to ask, I should be glad to be informed. I beg you to inform me of everything in your affairs which is connected with my operations, such, at least, as may be dependent on them, that I may do my utmost to aid you. I shall also be grateful for any instructions you may have time to give me.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

RALEIGH, *March 11, 1865.*

Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following as the result of examination of route from Jonesborough, on Western Coal Fields Railroad, to Page's Depot, on North Carolina Railroad, by way of Aven's Ferry. The distance is thirty-five miles, ridge road, generally level, and for the most part sandy soil; there are, however, several steep clay hills, which have been rendered almost impassable by the continued rains. The low grounds as you approach the river from Jonesborough are miry, and the road there in bad condition. It should be causewayed. With the exception of the Cape Fear, there is but one water-course of any importance—White Oak Creek, four miles east of the river, which is well bridged. At ordinary seasons this road is a very good one. From Jonesborough to Morrisville, on North Carolina Railroad, by way of Haywood, is as near a route. There is a bridge over Deep River, but there is none over Haw; it has been recently carried off by freshet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT STRANGE,
Aide-de-Camp.

RICHMOND, VA., *March 11, 1865.*

General JOS. E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh, N. C.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to advise you that I have failed in obtaining funds to pay the troops of your command. It is proper that I

should at the same time relieve both the War and Treasury Departments of any and all neglect in the matter. With this view I take the liberty of suggesting that a general order be published to your army, setting forth the embarrassment of the Treasury Department and the causes of the delay in the payment of their dues. I firmly believe that all dissatisfaction will cease when these reasons are explained to the army. The embarrassment of the Treasury is owing to the exhaustion of Treasury notes authorized to be issued by law. The present Congress has very properly prohibited any further issue, but has provided by a tax bill for the disbursements of the Government in the future. This tax bill goes into operation immediately, and the Secretary of the Treasury confidently believes that in six weeks he will be amply provided with means to pay the army, &c.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. DESLONDE,
Major, &c.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 58. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, Va., March 11, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

XVII. Paragraph XXIV, Special Orders, No. 43, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, is hereby revoked, and Brig. Gen. F. A. Shoup, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to duty under General Joseph E. Johnston, commanding, &c., and will report accordingly.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 11, 1865—12 m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh, N. C.:*

Please keep me informed of enemy's movements in Bragg's and Hardee's fronts. Troops at Salisbury are still awaiting transportation.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, *March 11, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD, *Charlotte:*

Federal army is in Fayetteville this morning. Hardee and Hampton near on this side. General Bragg's troops are returning to Goldsborough from Kinston, where the force opposed to his own was heavily re-enforced from Wilmington. That force was beaten by General Bragg with Hill's and Hoke's troops on the 8th.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 11, 1865—6.45 p. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh, N. C.:*

There are 120 car-loads of troops, artillery, and wagons at Salisbury. Must they continue to await transportation there or march to Greensborough? There are about sixty-five loads still at Chester awaiting movement from Salisbury.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS,
Raleigh, March 11, 1865—12 m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Fayetteville:

GENERAL: General Bragg reports a heavy force from Wilmington joining the troops he lately engaged. It may be Sherman's design to unite with that force and for that object to move toward Goldsborough instead of Raleigh. It is very important, therefore, that your movements conform to Sherman's when he leaves Fayetteville. If he goes to Raleigh he may cross the river twenty or thirty miles above Fayetteville. To discover any such movement we should have scouts on the west side of the river, parties small enough to escape by the ferries. If this has not been provided for desire Lieutenant-General Hampton to take the necessary steps. It is important that you keep as near the river as you can without compromising yourself until Sherman's course is developed. We are making preparations to send you from this point a few days' rations. We can supply you as long as it will be necessary, so it will not at present be necessary for you to come to the railroad for subsistence. Sherman will either move toward Raleigh or Goldsborough to unite with Cox. If he takes the first course, General Bragg's troops will be brought to yours; if the second, yours to his. We must endeavor to be prepared for either.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 11, 1865—12 m.*

General W. J. HARDEE,
Fayetteville, N. C.:

It is difficult to communicate with Robertson. I hope he will not follow the route you indicate. He should keep closer to enemy's rear. Butler and Wheeler must be between you and enemy. Call on Hampton to keep you advised of latter's movements.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

Report of a scouting party of seven men.

MARCH 11, 1865.

We left our command at Branchville, S. C., and proceeded in the direction of Orangeburg Court-House. Here the enemy were stationed, but soon moved off in the way of Columbia, their right column of the Seventeenth Corps moving on the old State road; the Fifteenth, on the Orangeburg road to Columbia; the Fourteenth, on the Bull Swamp road, and the Twentieth, on the road from Barnwell Court-House to Columbia, and Kilpatrick's cavalry to the left of that. We followed the right of the army near to Columbia, then shifted to the left, crossed the Saluda River, got in the forks of Saluda and Broad Rivers, and crossed the Broad at Lyle's Ford and followed the rear left flank of their army to Black Stocks Station, on the Charlotte and Columbia Railroad; from there to Rocky Mount Ferry, on the Catawba River; from there to Lancaster Court-House and to Chesterfield Court-House, and on to Haile's Ferry on the Pedee River, where they crossed, and then to Rockingham, and on to Fayetteville, where we joined our division.

The enemy's right remained of the same troops as from Orangeburg Court-House to Columbia and their entire line of march of the same. The result of scout, 1 man (a gallant fellow) killed on our side and 68 killed for the Federals, and 4 turned over to Wheeler's cavalry.

T. M. PAYSINGER,
Sergeant of Party.

[MARCH 11, 1865.—For Wheeler to McClellan, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1125.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Fayetteville, March 11, 1865—9.35 a. m.

Col. J. WARREN GRIGSBY, *Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: Major-General Wheeler desires you to cross the river at Averasborough, or some point above that. The enemy will occupy Fayetteville in an hour. You will, after crossing the river, make exertions to join the command with the train, as far as you can do so without risking the train. No point can now be designated.

Respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

M. G. HUDSON,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., March 11, 1865.

General BRAXTON BRAGG, *Goldsborough, N. C.:*

GENERAL: The demand for quartermaster and commissary supplies here is very urgent. If military reasons do not make it impossible let the trains go from Goldsborough loaded. If there be doubts of their prompt return I suggest that officers be sent with them. A law just passed gives the Government ample power over the roads, their officers, and their employés.

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 11, 1865.*

Hon. JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War, Richmond:

The trains were used in emergency in moving the sick and wounded and supplies from Kinston. That accomplished, they are now transporting all supplies hence without distinction between armies.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

(Same to General Lee.)

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 11, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh:*

We have nearly 200,000 rations, and there is no storage at Smithfield. I will stop first supplies there, and continue, unless otherwise directed.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RALEIGH, *March 11, 1865—10.15 a. m.*

General BRAGG, *Goldsborough:*

Better remain at Goldsborough till we see Sherman's course from Fayetteville.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 11, 1865—11 a. m.*

General BRAGG, *Kinston:*

Following dispatch just received from Raleigh, 11th:

Your commissary reports large amount commissary stores at Goldsborough. It is important to save them. I am sure you will have time to do so. They are of great importance to us, so please have them brought away.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

I have directed Cameron to obey. If you disapprove please telegraph.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, *March 11, 1865—12 m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG, *Goldsborough:*

Your dispatch of 11.30 a. m. received. Such supplies as you will not need at Goldsborough had better be sent to Smithfield. You have been requested to halt at Goldsborough until Sherman's course is determined.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 11, 1865—12.20 p. m.*

General JOHNSTON, *Raleigh, N. C.:*

Your three telegrams to-day received. Will remain here as directed. Will send trains loaded with supplies to Raleigh. While there you can dispose of the trains as you find necessary. I am informed troops are en route this way from Raleigh. Should not all such be ordered to stop at Smithfield? I will stop there those now coming till your wish is known.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 11, 1865—1.05 a. m.*

General BRAGG, *Kinston:*

Are there any orders to telegraph to Lipscomb's command at Rocky Point? Shall I break up post and telegraph offices south of this. I do not comprehend the full import of your telegram of 11.45 p. m. to Major Cameron. I only conjecture the danger alluded to. Please reply immediately.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 11, 1865—12.40 p. m.*

OPERATOR AT SMITHFIELD:

Troops now on way from Raleigh will stop at Smithfield. Send their trains on here. Show this to commanding officers.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 11, 1865.*

OPERATOR AT SMITHFIELD:

Colonel Burr's command of home guards, Ellis' battery, and Lipscomb's cavalry regiment, ordered to Raleigh, will be stopped at Smithfield. Show this to the commanding officers and telegraph here their arrival at Smithfield.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCH 11, 1865—12 m.

Colonel FREMONT,
Magnolia:

Your road is no longer safe south of the Neuse.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 11, 1865.

I. The general commanding directs that all public stores and the like will be forwarded to Raleigh as rapidly as possible, retaining 20,000 rations of subsistence here, and as much at Smithfield.

II. Medicines, medical stores proper, and surgical instruments, and ammunition, arms, and subsistence, will have preference of transportation in the order here mentioned. Passenger trains which cannot be used for freight will be devoted exclusively to the sick and wounded while needed for that purpose.

III. The entire energies of the different departments will be bestowed upon these objects. Officers will personally superintend the duties. The whole laboring force of the engineer and quartermaster's departments will be employed in the work.

IV. Cotton and other stores which cannot be removed must be so placed that they can be readily destroyed.

V. One officer of the inspector's department from these headquarters will remain on duty at the depot to overlook these operations, and keep the commanding general advised of any neglect or unnecessary delay.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Kinston, March 11, 1865.

Major-General HOKE:

GENERAL: See particularly to the telegraph operators, that they do not remain in Kinston. All of the papers in the telegraph office must be destroyed. As soon as all of the supplies and wounded are off General Bragg desires that you use the balance of transportation for removal of troops, commencing with Brigadier-General Baker's command, which will go directly through to Smithfield.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCH 11, 1865—12 m.

General HOKE,
Kinston:

Troops must all march. Hold Kinston as long as it can be done with safety to your rear guard, and delay the enemy on his route here as far as consistent with the safety of your command.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 11, 1865—5 p. m.*

General HOKE:

You have misconstrued my orders. Your main force was to move on, but the rear guard to hold the enemy in check at Kinston as long as consistent with safety. If not too late, this must now be done. It is all important.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

MARCH 11, 1865.

General HOKE:

Your dispatch received. It is important to delay the enemy's movement on this place, but your main body should come on as soon as the road is clear.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 11, 1865—6.05 p. m.*

General HOKE,
Kinston:

The cavalry will not answer. It seems to me one brigade would do, but if necessary, leave the two.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 11, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

Inspect field transportation at post Salisbury. Leave there what is absolutely necessary and order rest sent to Capt. J. M. Goodman, assistant quartermaster, at Chester, under Wagon-master Hauser.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 11, 1865—8.20 p. m.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

Can you send myself, two aides, and five horses through to Raleigh to-morrow, not by special trains? If so, when must I leave here? I wish to be delayed little as possible on the way.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 11, 1865—10 p. m.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

I will leave here Monday morning.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 11, 1865.*

Capt. J. M. GOODMAN,
Assistant Quartermaster, Chester, S. C.:

When will the last of the wagons and artillery leave Chester? Answer quick.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, *March 12, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:
(Via Richmond.)

Is it so important to prevent the interruption of the road by Raleigh by which you are supplied as to make it proper to give battle with the chance of winning against us? I would not fight Sherman's united army unless your situation makes it necessary.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 12, 1865—12.30 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE, *Petersburg, Va.:*

All troops have left Chester. I will leave here to-morrow morning to join General Johnston at or about Raleigh.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 12, 1865—12.30 p. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh, N. C.:*

All troops have left Chester. I will leave here to-morrow morning to join you.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 12, 1865.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

In view of difficulty to procure cars, General Beauregard will leave here to-morrow at 9 a. m. with only two aides, two couriers, and seven horses.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 12, 1865.*

Surg. P. E. HINES,
Medical Director, Raleigh, N. C.:

Dispatch received. Orders already given to move patients and stores from Wilson as soon as more urgent matters permit.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 12, 1865.*

Major-General HOKE,
Kinston, N. C.:

If Chesnut's squadron South Carolina cavalry is near you order it here immediately and to report on arrival.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 12, 1865.

Captain PARIS,
Commanding Light Artillery Battalion:

CAPTAIN: The general commanding directs you will immediately send a battery of your command to the county bridge near Goldsborough, and have them placed in position to defend the bridge against expected raid from the other side.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 12, 1865.

Col. T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Second South Carolina Cavalry:

The general commanding directs that you will take position on South River at and near the point where it is crossed by the highway leading from Goldsborough to Fayetteville. You will put yourself in communication with Lieutenant-General Hampton, who is in that vicinity. You will appropriately dispose your command so as to discover the first approach of the enemy from the direction of Fayetteville, and report to these headquarters by courier daily. You will report oftener when there shall be any special information to communicate. Should the enemy appear you will fall back before him toward Smithfield or Goldsborough, as the case may be, so as ultimately to join the main body of the forces of this command.

Respectfully, &c.,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Captain Chesnut, with his squadron, will be directed to rejoin you as soon as he can be found.

J. B. S.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 12, 1865.*

OPERATOR AT MOSELEY HALL:

Inform me when the rear guard, consisting of all infantry at Kinston, passes on the march this way, and promptly send forward all orders by courier. Keep your office open till ordered from here to close.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 12, 1865.

General D. H. HILL,
Commanding Corps:

Your note of to-day received. The general commanding entirely approves your suggestion concerning the Raleigh papers. On his arrival here from Wilmington he adopted toward them the course intimated, though a renewal of the restriction is probably necessary. This morning a squadron of cavalry was ordered here for the picket duty you suggest. They are expected to-morrow. You correctly apprehend the kind of field return called for, viz, effective total, total present, and aggregate.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NORTH CAROLINA RESERVES,
Raleigh, March 12, 1865.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, C. S. Army:

GENERAL: By orders of General Johnston, I have ordered all the Reserves and detailed men in this State to be assembled at convenient points on the railroads, with a view to call them into immediate service in the field. The reasons for this order have doubtless been given to you by General Johnston. In my judgment they are paramount. The failure to destroy the column advancing on Kinston and the abandonment of that important position makes it very doubtful whether a junction of that army with Sherman's can be prevented, and hence every musket that can be brought to bear will be required. The evils to be apprehended are the consequences that may result from withdrawing the Reserves from the apprehension of deserters, a duty to which they have recently been assigned, and which is now being prosecuted with some success. This, together with the stoppage of all public and private works on which detailed men are employed, is, in my judgment, more than counterbalanced by the imperious necessity of increasing General Johnston's force. The three regiments of Reserves lately stationed at Salisbury as a prison guard were reduced by desertions and other causes to one-quarter their proper strength, and I have some fear that the feeling of disaffection among the people will prevent their rallying in time to be of service, though I am assured by their colonels that such will be the case. The apparent certainty that this capital is the point at which the enemy's united armies will strike has induced me, by the advice of General Johnston, to order the camp of instruction and conscript office to be removed to Greensborough. Every preparation for this will be immediately made, but the movement will not commence until the intentions of the enemy are certain. I shall remain here, and if it be possible to assemble the desultory troops I have called out, will take the immediate command of them. If there be any objection to what I have done, or intend doing, I respectfully ask that you will instruct me by telegraph, as there will be ample time to restore the original status of things before any injury is done.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

TH. H. HOLMES,
Lieutenant-General.

[First indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
March 15, 1865.

Respectfully referred to General R. E. Lee.
By command of the Secretary of War:

H. L. CLAY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
March 18, 1865.

Respectfully returned to the honorable Secretary of War.
The action of Lieutenant-General Holmes is approved by General R. E. Lee.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS NORTH CAROLINA RESERVES,
Raleigh, March 2, 1865.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: All the Reserves in North Carolina have long been in active service under the different commanders, and I have no men to order, as required by Orders, No. 8, just received. I have written to General Bragg for a regiment of Senior Reserves, and I respectfully ask you to order the brigade now at Salisbury to be returned to me. The Federal prisoners there, I presume, will soon be forwarded for exchange.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

TH. H. HOLMES,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF GEORGIA,
Augusta, March 12, 1865.

Lieut. Col. J. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: For the information of the commanding general I respectfully report as follows: The effective force stationed in this military district consists of the Third Regiment Georgia Reserves, 375; Hannon's brigade cavalry, 500; Twenty-ninth Battalion Georgia Cavalry, 300; Fourth Regiment Georgia Cavalry, 200. The regiment of Georgia Reserves is now stationed three miles east of Augusta. Hannon's Brigade, left here by General Young, I have ordered to guard the approaches to this city from Savannah and Pocotaligo and to operate vigorously against any foraging or other parties the enemy may send out, and to keep them confined as far as practicable to such points as they hold on the coast. The same instructions have been given to the Twenty-ninth Georgia Battalion and Fourth Georgia Regiment, which are in Liberty and McIntosh Counties. So far as I have been able to learn, the enemy have no considerable force either at Charleston, Savannah, or any of the intermediate points. But the negroes everywhere within their reach have become much demoralized, and a large number have gone to the enemy. I have instructed the cavalry to prevent this as far as

practicable. I have caused General Lee's amnesty order and General Johnston's assuming command to be printed and distributed extensively in parts of this district which are not reached by the newspapers. These orders are producing a happy effect. I have been urging forward the work on the line of telegraph from Augusta to Columbia and hope to have it ready for use by the 20th instant. The heavy rains have retarded the work of repairing the Georgia Railroad. The engineer in charge expects to have it open to Atlanta by the 25th of April. Herewith I send copy of a proposal to procure necessaries by exchanging cotton and tobacco at Savannah. The parties making the proposal are reliable men. Without the sanction of the commanding general I have refused to authorize any trade with Savannah. I would be glad to know his wishes on this subject.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. D. FRY,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Raleigh, N. C., March 22, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded to General J. E. Johnston for his information and action.

Brigadier-General Fry's disposition of his forces and his instructions appear judicious. The matter of contracts for army supplies meets with my cordial approval, but I apprehend that no action can be taken without the direct approval of the War Department, and great caution should be used in selecting the parties to be contracted with; otherwise any such arrangement might lead to a great deal of abuse and trouble.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

RICHMOND, VA., *March 13, 1865.*

General ROBERT E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

The Secretary of War has just informed me that General Johnston has directed the removal of supplies from Raleigh as necessary for their safety. If this indicates a purpose to retire behind the railroad line from Goldsborough to Raleigh, and thence to Greensborough, the region of supplies will be lost, and we cannot maintain our position in Virginia and North Carolina. I hope you will be able, by specific instructions, to avert so great a calamity.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 13, 1865—8 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Raleigh, N. C.:

Lieutenant-General Lee reports that he will leave Augusta to-day with 3,000 men and pontoon train, if it arrive in time. He says about 4,000 men will probably arrive shortly at Augusta with wagon train. I leave this morning.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, *March 13, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD, *Charlotte:*

Following received, dated March 12, 8 p. m.:

Enemy crossed Cape Fear at Cedar Creek, Fayetteville, and Elliott's Ferry, seven miles above. I move up to cover all ferries above. Enemy's purpose not developed.
W. J. HARDEE.

If these crossings are in force a movement eastward is indicated. Hope to see you soon.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

SALISBURY, N. C., *March 13, 1865.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh, N. C.:*

Am here on my way to join you. Will leave here in a few minutes.
G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, *March 13, 1865—7.45 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:
(Via Barbee's.)

If enemy has crossed in force Cedar Creek, seems to indicate movement eastwardly. Have you not parties west of river above? If not, scouts might be sent by ferries you hold.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

MACON, GA., *March 13, 1865.*

Maj. F. MOLLOY,
Chief Commissary of Subsistence, Montgomery, Ala.:

General Beauregard directs that I, and all his staff wagons and appurtenances, join him at Charlotte, N. C. Brent left for the field last Wednesday. I will leave next Friday.

J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Maj. Gen. M. L. Smith, Mobile.)

RALEIGH, *March 13, 1865—5.15 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General STEWART, *Smithfield:*

Remain at Smithfield, and stop there all troops arriving from West. Acknowledge.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
March 13, 1865.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Lee's Corps:

The general commanding directs that you will put your command in motion at once and proceed to-night six or eight miles on the road to Smithfield. Further orders will be sent you there.

I am, general, &c.,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
March 13, 1865—6.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Lee's Corps:

The general commanding directs that you will continue your march, without unnecessary delay, to morrow morning, to Smithfield. Upon reaching there report your arrival to General J. E. Johnston, at Raleigh, by telegraph.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,
JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Abstract from return of the division commanded by Maj. Gen. Henry D. Clayton for March 13, 1865.

Command	Present for duty.		Effective total.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.			
Division staff	4	.....	.....	4	8
Stovall's brigade	49	425	402	583	2,578
Holtzclaw's brigade *a*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gibson's brigade *b*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jackson's brigade *c*	7	116	103	164	3,017
Total division	60	541	505	751	5,603

a Sent to Mobile by order General Beauregard.
b Transferred to Bate's division by order General Hood.
c Transferred from Bate's division, in exchange for Gibson's brigade, by order General Hood.

H. D. CLAYTON,
Major-General.

Abstract from return of the division commanded by Brig. Gen. William B. Taliaferro C. S. Army, for March 13, 1865.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Total present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.			
Staff	7	.....	.....	8	8
Elliott's brigade	86	1,460	1,461	1,855	3,137
Rhett's brigade	86	1,048	1,051	1,280	1,795
Total infantry	172	2,508	2,512	3,135	4,932
Rhett's battalion light artillery	12	288	288	341	536
Grand total	191	2,796	2,800	3,484	5,476

FAYETTEVILLE AND RALEIGH ROAD,
Near McKeethon's, March 13, 1865—1 p. m.

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: A wagon load of ordnance is just passing back to General Wheeler. No other memorandum of ordnance needed has been received by me. If you will send an officer to fit up the howitzer which is with my headquarters train I will furnish ammunition. I have left a brigade of infantry at the intersection of the McKeethon Bridge road with this and directed that it should sustain the cavalry in case it should be forced back to that point. I hope you have cavalry on the other roads watching the enemy. I think the movement on this road is intended merely, as you suppose, to get forage. One of my scouting parties on the other side of the river last night captured 5 of the enemy, 13 negroes, 9 horses, and 3 carts of bacon. The enemy are foraging up to Little River.

Respectfully, yours,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
March 13, 1865—5.45 p. m.

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 2.25 p. m. just received. It is desirable to check the enemy as much as possible, so as to allow our infantry to get off. If only cavalry presses you you can easily stop them or keep Generals Johnston and Hardee informed of all movements by telegraph. It will be necessary to hold the point where this road and the one you are on come together, so that Law can get by. He is ten miles from Raleigh, with pickets well to his front.

Yours, respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

It is necessary to keep some force on the railroad to cover that and the dirt road up to Brassfield Depot. A brigade would be sufficient for this and it could rejoin you when Law reaches the railroad.

[MARCH 13, 1865.—For Wheeler to McClellan (three dispatches), reporting operations, see Part I, pp. 1125, 1126.]

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 13, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh:*

Your dispatch received. My troops are all here and ready, except rear guard at Kinston. The enemy had not appeared there last night.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RALEIGH, *March 13, 1865—3.30 p. m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG, *Goldsborough:*

How long will it take you to reach Smithfield, and how much can the railroad help you in time?

J. E. JOHNSTON.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 13, 1865—4.30 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Raleigh:

My main force can be there on the 15th; all on the 16th, if we move immediately, which I suggest. No railroad transportation is available, nor could it advance me.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RALEIGH, *March 13, 1865—5.15 p. m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Goldsborough:

Transfer your command, including Tennessee troops, to Smithfield with all promptness, using railroad as far as may be advantageous. Keep your cavalry in observation as long as possible. Acknowledge receipt of this.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

RALEIGH, *March 13, 1865—5.45 p. m.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Goldsborough:

Your dispatch 4.30 p. m. received. Move as early as possible in the morning. Acknowledge.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 13, 1865—6.15 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Raleigh, N. C.:

Your two telegrams of this afternoon are received.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 13, 1865.*

OPERATOR AT MOSELEY HALL:

Remain until the cavalry at Kinston are ordered to fall back. Then accompany them with your instruments and materials. While remaining, communicate information to Colonel Pool, Goldsborough, and General Bragg, Smithfield. If Chesnut's squadron is near tell them to come on.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Goldsborough, March 13, 1865.

The several commands will immediately prepare and keep on hand cooked rations for two days, and be held ready in every respect to march at a moment's notice. Absent or detached commands will as promptly as practicable assemble at Goldsborough, encamp, and await orders. That part of Major-General Hoke's division (including Colonel Whitford's command) left at Kinston as rear guard will immediately

march for this place on the dirt road nearest the railroad, so that they may be taken up on trains if necessary and practicable. The cavalry there will remain behind till further orders, to cover the movement and report and obstruct the movements of the enemy. Chiefs of staff departments will see to the proper disposition of the affairs of their several departments, and that no delay or loss shall ensue.

By order of General Bragg:

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 13, 1865—11.45 a. m.*

Colonel ZACHRY,
Commanding Colquitt's Brigade, Kinston, N. C.:

Leave the cavalry to watch and obstruct the enemy and to report his movements. With the infantry of the rear guard you will march here without delay on the dirt road leading along the railroad, so as to be taken up by trains, if practicable to send any.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *March 13, 1865.*

Colonel ZACHRY, *Kinston:*
(Care of Captain Cooper, assistant adjutant-general.)

Your dispatch to General Hoke opened by me. Colonel Sale is my assistant adjutant-general. March immediately as directed, leaving the cavalry until further orders. Telegraph office at Moseley Hall to be kept open till ordered closed from me. Courier to be kept there to communicate with Kinston. Burn all bridges as you pass this way. No train can be sent. Time is important.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,
Tallahassee, March 13, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Commanding Department, &c.:

GENERAL: I send with this two reports* made by Capt. J. J. Dickison, Second Florida Cavalry, of recent operations of his command against the enemy. Whilst I commanded the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, [I] frequently had occasion to bring to the notice of the Government the gallant and valuable services rendered by Captain Dickison, and recommended his promotion. I am glad to have this opportunity of again mentioning his services, and to renew my recommendation that he be promoted. I think he has fairly won his promotion, and that his advancement will promote the interest of the service in this State. I therefore recommend that he be given the rank, at least temporarily, of colonel. The enemy has been quite active in this State recently, and if they succeed in getting possession of Baldwin, or so damaging the Central, or Georgia and Pensacola Rail-

* For report of action at Braddock's Farm, Fla., see Part I, p. 1135, and for report of action at Station Number Four, Fla., see Vol. XLIX, Part I.

road as to prevent the passage of cars for a considerable length of time, it will, in a measure, cut off South Florida from the rest of the Confederacy, and in that event it will be necessary to have an active, intelligent, and energetic officer to command in South Florida. I know of no one, certainly no one in my command, at all comparable to Captain Dickison for this service. If he had the requisite rank he could retain his present command, three companies and a section of artillery, and also the special, or, as it is called here, commissary battalion of nine companies and about 800 men. This battalion was organized by the War Department for the purpose of collecting cattle, but is called on to render more military service when needed. I do not propose to interfere with the organization of the battalion, but simply to have Captain Dickison given sufficient rank (the battalion is commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Munnerlyn) to enable him to exercise command over it. I am convinced that if this recommendation is adopted it will conduce to the interest of the service, and therefore respectfully urge that it be done as soon as practicable.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

Report forwarded direct to the Adjutant and Inspector General because I do not know when or where the copy sent to Lieutenant-General Hardee will reach him, and the uncertainty of reaching him also.

SAM. JONES,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,
Tallahassee, Fla., March 13, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Comdg. Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida:

GENERAL: In an interview I had with you a day or two before I left Charleston you gave as a reason for assigning me to the command of this district that, in the event of your being cut off from this section of country by the movements of the enemy, you desired to have in command here an officer of experience, and of such rank as would enable him to command in Southern Georgia in the event of any emergency rendering it desirable to do so; and you added that if after entering on command here I judged it advisable that my command should be extended to embrace Southern Georgia, or so much of it as was in your department, you would do it. I am convinced that all of Georgia south of the Altamaha, the Ocmulgee Rivers, and Muscogee and South Western Railroad, or the Eufaula Railroad, and the counties of Alabama adjacent to the Chattahoochee and south of Columbus should be under one commander. Under the altered aspect of affairs, the fall of Savannah and Charleston, the march of the enemy through South Carolina, and the transfer of the greater part of the Army of Tennessee north of the Savannah River, the present arrangement of districts seems to me very defective and inconvenient. As I understand it, the part of Georgia south of Altamaha and east of the Allapaha is in the District of Georgia, headquarters at Augusta, and the portion of Southern Georgia west of the Allapaha is in [a] district of the Department of Tennessee. Who commands that department, if there is such a department now, and where the headquarters are, I do not know.

There is no good reason, that I can see, why South Georgia should be so divided, and many reasons why it should be under one command, and incorporated with the District of Florida. All of it, and especially the eastern portion, through which the Savannah, Albany and Gulf Railroad passes, is in easier and more direct communication with Florida than with any other portion of your department.

There is a regiment and battalion of cavalry (Colonel Clinch's regiment, and the Twenty-ninth Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Hood), south of the Altamaha, but the commanders inform me they have little or no communication with Augusta, the headquarters of the district, and have been for a long time without orders or instructions. It would be useless, I think, to order them away. The men are from that section of country, and public sentiment there is so deplorably disloyal that the men would not go away if ordered; but they may be made useful in that section of country in preventing the enemy from occupying and cultivating the coast, and in co-operating with the troops in this district for its defense. Both the regiment and battalion, I understand, desire to be attached to this district. I have given them some orders and instructions and shall continue to do so when occasion requires it, unless I am instructed to the contrary, but it will be much better to place them, by orders, in this district. I think the enemy will renew the attempt recently made to get possession of this place and to penetrate up the Appalachicola, Chattahoochee, and Flint Rivers. Hence, I think the officer commanding this district should also have control in the adjacent parts of Georgia and Alabama. Any local troops that may be in that part of Alabama might be used to prevent raids through the portion of West Florida in this district. Whilst this section of country is so effectually cut off from communication with Richmond and department headquarters (I have not received orders or instructions from either place since I have been here), additional authority should be given to the commander. Under existing orders and regulations much of the business of the district requires the action of department headquarters, but I do not know where they are, and if they are in South Carolina it requires a long time to communicate with them. I have taken the responsibility, and shall continue to do so until further orders, to act in all such cases as I thought best, without referring to department headquarters. But it will be much better to confer the authority upon me or whoever commands in this section and recall it when there is no longer necessity for it. It will hardly be supposed that I make these suggestions simply to enlarge the area of my authority. I have known for the greater part of three years now the anxious, harassing, and thankless duty of commanding in a large area of country without anything approaching the adequate means of defending it. I make the suggestions because I think, if adopted, they will tend to promote the interest of our country and cause. I shall send this to you by a special messenger, and have to request that you will communicate with me on the subject with as little delay as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAM. JONES,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded direct to the Adjutant and Inspector General, because I do not know when or where the copy forwarded to General Hardee will reach him.

SAM. JONES,
Major-General.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, March 14, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: Great disorders are already coming from the selling of spirits to the soldiers in the city, and the evil may be expected to increase as the number of soldiers increases. It is somewhat embarrassing for civil officers to assume authority to remove or destroy private property, and I therefore have to request you, in the name of the loyal and orderly citizens of this city, to issue orders for the immediate removal or destruction of all liquors in this place, except such small quantities as may be necessary for family and medical purposes.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. B. VANCE.

GREENSBOROUGH, N. C., *March 14, 1865—4 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh:*

Sherman is moving doubtless to form junction with Schofield's forces about Goldsborough. As you cannot yet check him, it would be well to concentrate all your forces against Schofield and crush him before that junction can be made.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SMITH'S FERRY, *March 14, 1865—2 p. m.*
(Via Barbee's, 4 a. m. 15th.)

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

The enemy advanced on the river and plank roads to-day to Silver Creek, where I had a brigade of infantry intrenched to support the cavalry; then Hampton fell back. At his request the infantry was withdrawn, and the line occupied by dismounted cavalry. The enemy came upon and felt the lines sharply, and retired about four miles. I was on the cavalry front myself to-day, and don't think the advance in this direction was serious or in large force. Distant cannonading heard this evening, supposed to be on the Clinton road, in Butler's front. I expect to hear from him during the night.

W. J. HARDEE.

[MARCH 14, 1865.—For Wheeler to McClellan (two dispatches), reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1126.]

HEADQUARTERS TENNESSEE BRIGADE,
March 14, 1865.

Col. H. M. ASHBY:

COLONEL: Warren's scouts have just returned. They report that they followed the river road near Beasley's Mills, two miles this side of the bridge, and found the enemy encamped there in heavy force. They say there was a considerable stir in camp about midnight. They think they were moving out their wagons on the plank road.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. KUHN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Tennessee Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS TENNESSEE CAVALRY BRIGADE,
River Road, March 14, 1865—7.30 o'clock.

Captain WALKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Captain Moore, commanding picket, reports the enemy's cavalry advancing on this road. Their advance was about two miles beyond our vedettes at 6 o'clock this morning. He thinks that they are advancing slowly and cautiously.

I am, captain, your obedient servant,

J. H. KUHN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

RALEIGH, *March 14, 1865.*

Colonel PARKER:

General Johnston directs that you make immediate arrangements for the transportation of the Federal prisoners here to the point on the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad nearest to the Danville railroad. Colonel Cunningham will have command of the guard (State troops), and will be directed to confer with you. Capt. John Robinson, engineer, will give you information about railroad trains, and you should see him. I will send the guard to report to you, and you will please turn it over to Colonel Cunningham.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 14, 1365.*

Col. A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, &c.:

COLONEL: I have the honor to state that fifty men of the North Carolina militia will be insufficient to guard 500 prisoners on the march between the two railroads. It will require at least twenty-five on guard at a time, and the militia, being unaccustomed to fatigue and exposure, will prove much less efficient than a smaller number of troops accustomed to marching and doing duty as sentinels. I would respectfully recommend that the number be increased to 75 or 100 if practicable.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. A. CUNNINGHAM,
Colonel, &c.

SMITHFIELD, *March 14, 1865.*

Hon. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Secretary of War, Richmond:

Your order for Major Reid will be promptly obeyed, but I know not how to feed this command without him. I have no competent officer to relieve him, and no one can replace him, for want of his local knowledge and experience.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

NEAR SMITHFIELD, *March 14, 1865—2.15 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh:*

I encamp at Smithfield to-night. Tennessee troops are all up. My own will be up to-morrow. The enemy had not advanced on Kinston last night.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

SMITHFIELD, *March 14, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Raleigh:*

The pontoons at Goldsborough are too heavy for field transportation. We have a good bridge here. Shall I exercise temporary command of all the troops in this vicinity?

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Peters' Cross-Roads, March 14, 1865.

Col. THEODORE G. BARKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

In a communication of the 12th from Col. John B. Sale, assistant adjutant-general for General Bragg, received on the morning of the 13th, I was ordered to change my course from Raleigh and take position on the highway leading from Fayetteville to Goldsborough, placing pickets on the South River, which is also known as Black River, and to communicate with Lieutenant-General Hampton. I have the honor to state that I reached this point (eight miles from South River) late yesterday evening and sent out pickets on this road four miles in advance of my present position and also on the other road running parallel with the one I am on. I will advance my picket this morning to the river on this road, and scout the other road as far as the river. Will you send a courier back with mine, so that you may know my position and extend me any information that may be important for my safety. I am ordered to report by courier daily to General Bragg at Goldsborough, and if the enemy advance, to fall back either toward Goldsborough or Smithfield, but if it should become necessary for me to move in any other direction or dangerous to await orders from General Bragg, will you please extend to me such orders as you think best. I have one man claiming to belong to Wheeler's command and one belonging to the navy, arrested by my picket last night, and have seen others straggling about the country, claiming to belong to Wheeler's command. If you will send a courier back with mine, I will send the two men I have by him to you.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
[*Smithfield,*] *March 14, 1865—3.30 p. m.*

Colonel LIPSCOMB,
Second South Carolina Cavalry:

COLONEL: For the present the headquarters of the general commanding have been changed to this place. You will accordingly change your own position, so as to observe the approaches from Fayetteville to

this place, as well as any movement of the enemy from Fayetteville toward north or east in force, and send your reports here instead of to Goldsborough. Report your precise position, as changed, by return courier.

Respectfully, &c.,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, March 15, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Comdg. Dept. of North and South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida:

GENERAL: I received to-day by Major Saunders your letter of the 11th instant. You will probably have received by this time my communication of the same date, in which I endeavored to describe to you my condition. You are right in supposing that the course you may be able to pursue will materially affect mine. If you are forced back from Raleigh, and we be deprived of the supplies from East North Carolina, I do not know how this army can be supported. Yet a disaster to your army will not improve my condition, and while I would urge upon you to neglect no opportunity of delivering the enemy a successful blow, I would not recommend you to engage in a general battle without a reasonable prospect of success. I think it more probable that Sherman will unite Schofield with him at Raleigh than that he will unite with Schofield near Kinston; but in either event an opportunity may occur for you and Bragg to unite upon one of their columns and crush it. I do not think I could maintain my position were I further to reduce my force. That you may understand my situation I will state that the supplies in Virginia are exhausted. The enemy has succeeded in cutting off the Weldon railroad, and my only reliance is the communication by Danville. General Grant has intrenched himself on both sides of James River, stretching toward the swamps of the Chickahominy on the north bank, and Hatcher's Run on the south. On this long line, with far inferior numbers, I confront him. His numerical superiority has been increased since detaching Hoke, Conner, and Hampton. His present preponderance in cavalry, and his ability unperceived to mass his troops while holding his intrenchments on either side of the river, enables him constantly to threaten our flanks and causes legitimate apprehension for the safety of the Danville road. You will therefore perceive that if I contract my lines as you propose, with the view of holding Richmond, our only resource for obtaining subsistence will be cut off, and the city must be abandoned; whereas, if I take a position to maintain the road, Richmond will be lost. I think you can now understand the condition of affairs and correctly estimate the importance of resisting the farther advance of Sherman. But should that not be possible, you will also see that I cannot remain here, but must start out and seek a favorable opportunity for battle. I shall maintain my position as long as it appears advisable, both from the moral and material advantages of holding Richmond and Virginia. If obliged to abandon it, so far as I can now see I shall be compelled to fall back to the Danville road for subsistence, and unless that subsistence can be supplied from the State of North Carolina, I do not know whence it can be obtained. If Richmond is given up the sooner we can strike one of the columns of the enemy the better, but on which side of the

Roanoke must depend on circumstances. Should Gaston be your best point to reach the Roanoke, as stated by Generals Holmes and Gatlin, you would have the advantage of the bridge at that place on which to cross the river; but unless you could bring supplies with you I think your army would suffer. I have sent an engineer officer to examine the crossings, roads, &c., from Danville to Field's Ferry, below Clarksville. I recommend you do the same. Information as to what provisions and forage can be relied on I think also desirable. In my opinion the farther east we confine Sherman the better, and the more room it will allow for maneuvering the armies. I have endeavored to give you all information necessary for determining your operations. If there is any point on which you wish further, please advise me. I have not pretended to lay down fixed rules, which at this distance and at this time cannot safely be done, but rely upon your good judgment and skill to accomplish everything that is possible to attain our common end—the greatest success. Unity of purpose and harmony of action between the two armies, with the blessing of God, I trust will relieve us from the difficulties that now beset us.

Most truly and respectfully, yours,

R. E. LEE,
General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 15, 1865—8 a. m.*

Col. J. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Charlotte, N. C.:

Order General Robertson, through several messengers from Camden, to come to this place by the best and most direct route, avoiding Fayetteville, now occupied by enemy. He must report what route he will follow.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 15, 1865—8 a. m.*

Col. J. M. OTEY,
Charlotte, N. C.:

General Johnston's orders as follows: General Lee must bring at most only one battalion artillery; rest must return to Augusta, thence to Macon. Major Ayer must lend to Maj. W. H. Smith 400 wagons of Army of Tennessee to be used as follows: One hundred on road from Black Stocks or Winnsborough to Alston; 200 from Abbeville to Washington, and 100 to collect supplies in Northwestern South Carolina. Major McCrady must push on rapidly repairs of roads from Chester to Georgia road, via Winnsborough, Alston, Abbeville, and Washington. He must report weekly progress.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 15, 1865—1 p. m.*

Col. J. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Charlotte, N. C.:

Order General Lee to bring with him all the caissons he may have with him. Order Major Ayer to send Maj. J. B. Moore to report to General Johnston forthwith.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

AVERASBOROUGH, *March 15, 1865.*
(Via Barbee's, 12.30 p. m.)

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Raleigh, N. C.:

The enemy, after being checked at Silver Run, retired toward Fayetteville. Hampton has transferred his command over Black River, to be in front of any movement upon Goldsborough. I heard nothing from Butler on the Clinton road during the night, and I am holding my command here awaiting further information. Prisoners say Sherman is receiving supplies at Fayetteville, by water, from Wilmington.

W. J. HARDEE.

Abstract from field return of McLaws' division for March 15, 1865.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Total present.	Aggregate present.
	Officers.	Men.			
Conner's brigade	.....	.....	1,217	1,294	1,452
Blanchard's brigade	.....	.....	326	382	440
Harrison's brigade	.....	.....	788	1,034	1,115
Fiser's brigade	.....	.....	725	819	880
Hardy's brigade	.....	.....	329	409	448
Henderson's brigade	.....	.....	270	344	385
Brooks' battalion artillery	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grand total	.....	.....	3,655	4,282	4,720

SMITHFIELD, *March 15, 1865—8.30 a. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON.
Raleigh:

Enemy reported last night as having crossed at Kinston in small force. Your dispatch received placing me in command here.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Smithfield, March 15, 1865.

Col. T. J. LIPSCOMB:

Your two dispatches by courier (yesterday's date) came last night. On our arrival here yesterday afternoon a courier was dispatched to you, by direction of the general commanding, advising you that headquarters are here for the present, and instructing you to so modify the disposition of your command as to adapt it to the change here made, still covering and holding in observation the approaches from Fayetteville northward and eastward, and to send your reports here instead of to Goldsborough. These instructions are now repeated. Your report is a little indefinite as to the crossing of the enemy at Blockersville, and proceeding up the Warsaw road. Have you since ascertained such to be the fact? It will be necessary that you send a courier daily to me to report positions, discoveries, &c. Your order to Lieutenant Stack

is approved. Your suggestion in reference to impressment of cavalry horses is adopted, but you will impress only in your front and as you fall back, but do not disperse your men to the rear for that purpose.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
March 15, 1865.

Col. T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Commanding Second South Carolina Cavalry:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you move your command at once via Goldsborough, and take position in front of and near to the enemy, who is moving from about Kinston in this direction. Dispose your men so as to observe all the avenues of approach, and to this end you had better place a detachment on the south side of the river. If he advance impede his progress and learn his movements. Report daily from the nearest telegraph office, and oftener when necessary. Report by courier should the telegraph at any time become impracticable. Captain Chesnut's (Captain Macfie's) squadron will be ordered to join you as soon as he can be found.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD, *March 15, 1865.*

Col. S. D. POOL,
Goldsborough, N. C.:

Dispatches received last night. Instruct Colonel Baird to keep close to the enemy, and fall back in their immediate front, reporting regularly. Your suggestion for railroad transportation for cotton referred to Major Cameron for attention if practicable.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] SMITHFIELD, *March 16, 1865.*
(Received 6.45.)

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

I respectfully request revocation of Special Orders, No. 43, paragraph XXIV, assigning General Shoup. I had on assuming command assigned Brigadier-General Mackall to the duty to which General Pillow is assigned in Special Orders, No. 51. Shall I revoke my order?

J. E. JOHNSTON.

SMITHFIELD, *March 16, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:

Your letter of the 11th received. I will do my utmost to fulfill your wishes. Have already ordered 300 wagons, Army of Tennessee, to be used in filling gaps in railroad, and 100 in collecting supplies for you in South Carolina. Federal army east of Cape Fear, but still near Fayetteville.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 16, 1865—7 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C.:

Please issue the order putting me second in command. I desire no other position at present, on account of my health.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 2. HEADQUARTERS, *Smithfield, N. C., March 16, 1865.*

General G. T. Beauregard is announced as second in command of this army.

By order of General Johnston:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 6. HEADQUARTERS, *Smithfield, N. C., March 16, 1865.*

I. Lieut. Gen. A. P. Stewart will assume command of the infantry and artillery of the Army of Tennessee.

* * * * * * *

IV. Baker's brigade is assigned to Clayton's division.

* * * * * * *

By order of General Johnston:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 16, 1865—7 a. m.*

Col. G. W. BRENT, *Charlotte, N. C.:*

Go to Chester to expedite movement of troops and trains to Smithfield. Colonel Waddy must report here. Procure telegrams of yesterday to Colonel Otey, and carry out instructions therein contained. Enemy still at Fayetteville.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 16, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

Col. GEORGE W. BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Chester, or Charlotte:

Order Brig. Gen. B. H. Robertson, now near Camden, S. C., through several messengers, to move to this place with his command by the best and shortest route, avoiding Fayetteville. He must report what route he will follow, and move promptly.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 16, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

General S. D. LEE:

(Care of General B. D. Fry, Augusta, or on way. From Winnsborough by courier-line.)

General Johnston orders that you bring at most only one battalion of artillery, but all the caissons available. Rest must return to Macon.

Major Ayer must turn over to Maj. Norman W. Smith, quartermaster, 400 wagons of Army of Tennessee, to be used as follows: one hundred from Black Stocks or Winnsborough to Alston, 200 from Abbeville to Washington, and 100 to collect supplies in Northwestern South Carolina. Order Major Ayer to send Maj. J. Blue Moore to report to General Johnston.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 16, 1865.*

General B. D. FRY,
Augusta, Ga.:
(From Winnsborough by courier-line.)

Extend courier-line to Winnsborough, as ordered. Prompt action is needed. Couriers should make seven miles an hour.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 16, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. B. H. ROBERTSON,
Camden, S. C.:

GENERAL: General Beauregard directs that you move at once with your command to Raleigh, N. C., by the best and most direct route, avoiding Fayetteville, now occupied by the enemy. You will report to General Beauregard the route you follow.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 16, 1865—7 p. m.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Salisbury, N. C.:

You will send the horses referred to in your telegram of this date to Captain Robinson by dirt road to Greensborough, where they will take cars to Smithfield. Wagons, ambulances, and artillery must be taken off wheels and sent on by cars.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield Town, March 16, 1865—6.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Averasborough:

Make a day's march in this direction, leaving a rear guard under your most competent officer to support the cavalry, which will remain to observe and keep enemy in check. Let engineer officers find roads leading across into the Fayetteville and Raleigh road. Inform General

Hampton of the intended movement. Establish a line of couriers to this place. Let me know your position to-night. Turn all of your reserve artillery fit for service to Smithfield.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

9.30 A. M.

P. S.—Please inform General Hampton that General Bragg says there are considerable stores (quartermaster and commissary) at Clinton. General Johnston desires him to use or remove them if practicable. The advance of a column of the enemy (force not known) was last evening at White Hall, on the Neuse, above Kinston. This information should also be furnished General Hampton. Opposing this force General Bragg has 1,000 infantry and a squadron of cavalry.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[MARCH 15 [16], 1865.—For Hardee to Johnston, 3.30 p. m., reporting operations at Averasborough, see Part I, p. 1073.]

SMITHFIELD, *March 16, 1865—4 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Near Averasborough:

Dispatch 11.30 a. m. received. The instructions to you to move toward Smithfield were based on the idea given by the weak demonstration reported by you yesterday that the enemy was merely clearing his left flank to march toward Clinton or Goldsborough. Unless you are informed that he is pressing General Hampton so strongly as to confirm that idea, do not obey the order of this morning to march on Smithfield, but leave the enemy no farther than may be necessary to your safety, so that if he moves toward Raleigh with his army you may keep before him. If he turns to the east you may come toward Smithfield.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

[MARCH 16, 1865.—For Hardee to Johnston, 4.30 p. m., reporting operations at Averasborough see Part I, p. 1074.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 16, 1865—10.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

Your dispatch of 4.30 p. m. received. At what point has the enemy crossed the Black River—near the Clinton road, as if to move toward Goldsborough, or near your position, as if to turn your flank and move toward Raleigh? Please give all the information you have from General Hampton in regard to their movements, in order that we may regulate our own accordingly. If you are moving this way you had better have the telegraph office at Barbee's moved to Raleigh.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 16, 1865.

Lieutenant-General STEWART, *Commanding Army of Tennessee:*

GENERAL: General Johnston desires that you will communicate to the Army of Tennessee that at this time, in presence of the enemy, no furloughs can be granted. As soon, however, as such indulgence can be allowed consistently with the good of the service they will be recommenced upon a liberal system.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Smithfield, March 16, 1865.

In obedience to Special Orders, No. 6, from the headquarters of General Johnston, dated at Smithfield, March 16, 1865, I assume command of the infantry and artillery of the Army of Tennessee.

ALEX. P. STEWART,
Lieutenant-General.

ONE MILE FROM SMITH'S HOUSE,
March 16, 1865—11.30 a. m.

General HAMPTON, *Commanding Cavalry:*

GENERAL: I have already informed you by one of your couriers that the enemy attacked me this morning at 7 o'clock, and we have been fighting him ever since. Rhett's brigade fell back in some disorder, but rallied on Elliott. My principal fight will be at this point, where McLaws has his entire division. I expected to have your assistance to-day, and I regret that circumstances compelled you to send Wheeler elsewhere. Unless the enemy brings up a heavier force than he has yet shown I have no doubt of my ability to hold my position till night, when I shall retire, in obedience to what I regard as General Johnston's wishes, on the Smithfield road. The general is himself at Smithfield. I hope to see you to-night. When I pass Averasborough Raleigh will be entirely uncovered. You must endeavor to place some cavalry to cover it.

Very respectfully,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR SMITH'S, *March 16, 1865—1 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON:

GENERAL: Lieutenant-General Hardee has twice written to you this morning. The enemy are pressing us heavily and by flank movements compelled our withdrawal from two advanced lines. We are now on the main line. General Wheeler is here and has sent back four miles to hurry up his command. The boat howitzer has been fitted up and I sent it on the Averasborough and Smithfield road by a courier of yours, who said you would be on that road.

Yours, very respectfully,

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 16, 1865—6.35 a. m.

Major MCCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I regret to say that no information has yet been received from Colonel McLemore, in response to the dispatch directing him to send scouts to ascertain what force of enemy had passed up the plank road, nor has the courier returned. I inclose dispatch just received from General Allen. Neither of the dispatches referred to by him were brought by the courier.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

N. B.—The dispatches referred to by General Allen have just come in and are inclosed.*

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
March 16, 1865.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to forward a communication just received from Captain Wright, commanding Shaw's battalion, to Colonel White, commanding Hagan's brigade. I had sent a picket also to Stallings Bridge, with a view to covering the crossings over Mingo Creek. I therefore released the picket on Mingo Creek, hence the roads to your headquarters and to the rear of Lieutenant-Colonel Davant (Fifth Georgia Cavalry), commanding picket at Smith's Mill, are left open. I shall move at a very early hour this morning down to the point at which the road from Stallings Bridge to Smithfield intersects this road (leading from Averasborough to Clinton). I think it will be better to withdraw Colonel Davant back to this road. If the general thinks it best to do so, please direct him to withdraw through the courier who bears this.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Since writing the above the accompanying note from General Law has come in to be forwarded to General Hampton.

Respectfully,

W. W. A.

MCDONALD'S CROSS-ROADS, *March 16, 1865.*

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: As the enemy, with infantry and cavalry, crossed at Smith's Mill, I have directed Colonel Davant to fall back, when forced to do so, toward the bridge over Black River, where you crossed. It is important to hold the Smithfield road, and there Colonel Davant is directed to make a stand. You can re-enforce him. Leave what force is necessary to cover the road to Raleigh, and you can bring the rest of your force up the Smithfield road. Should you meet any of my artillery

* Not found.

bring it along. As a strong force is now in the fork of the Black River and Mingo Creek I shall place a small picket at the bridge over the latter, with directions to burn it on approach of enemy. It will be destroyed at any rate in three hours. Colonel Dibrell reports the enemy as one mile east of this point and moving east. I will take him with me, connecting with the Second South Carolina Regiment, and covering the roads to Goldsborough and Smithfield. I think General Hardee should move as soon and as rapidly as he can, as the enemy are making toward Goldsborough. I shall be on the Clinton and Smithfield road.

Very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON.

[MARCH 16, 1865.—For Wheeler to McClellan, reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1126.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Near Stallings Bridge, March 16, 1865—9.15 a. m.

Lieut. M. G. HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: Colonel Dibrell directs me to say to you that the enemy have made their appearance at the bridge and are attempting to cross.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. B. RAWORTH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Smithfield, March 16, 1865.

Chief commissaries of corps, and of divisions not forming part of a corps, will at once report to Maj. S. V. Reid, acting chief commissary of the department, the times up to which their several commands are rationed. Hereafter (as long as the forces remain stationary) they will draw upon requisitions approved by the assistant adjutants-general of the respective commands and by Major Reid. During same time they will employ the brigade transportation in collecting supplies as far as practicable in the surrounding country, so as not to draw from the depot more than absolutely necessary.

By order of General Bragg:

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Smithfield, March 16, 1865.

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE,
Camp, near Smithfield:

GENERAL: From near Burgaw Station you detached from your command and ordered to a position up the Cape Fear River toward Fayetteville, two companies of infantry, one of light artillery, and a detachment of engineer troops—names of the companies, &c., not known here. When the enemy's movements from east and south recently threatened to cut these troops off orders were sent them from these headquarters,

through Colonel Lipscomb, at Rocky Point, to proceed directly to Fayetteville, and there report for the time being to General Johnston, Lieutenant-General Hardee, or other senior officer present. It is presumed that these orders were obeyed, and that the detachments are probably now with Lieutenant-General Hardee. The general commanding now directs that they rejoin your command as early as practicable, and to that end that you forward them orders (accompanied by this note) through Lieutenant-General Hardee, designating the companies and detachment by name.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
March 16, 1865.

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your order of the 15th, directing me to move via Goldsborough and take position in front of and near to the enemy moving from Kinston to Smithfield, &c.

I had received written orders from General Hampton directing me to report to General Butler, and orders from General Butler directing me to leave the road I was picketing on this morning and report to him at Beaman's Cross-Roads. I carried the above order into execution, and, after reporting, received your dispatch to-night about 9 o'clock. I immediately submitted your order to General Butler and asked to be relieved from under his command in order that I might carry out your orders. It was promptly done, and I will leave here at daylight for Goldsborough. Your letter of the 8th, in regard to Lieutenant Thompson, was never received, or the order would have been obeyed at once. He is on detached duty at present, but I have sent for him, and your instructions [will be] carried out as soon as he reaches me, and a report submitted.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Colonel, Commanding.

SMITHFIELD, *March 16, 1865—9 a. m.*

Col. S. D. POOL, *Goldsborough:*

Ascertain if there is any force of the enemy on north side of Neuse. If none, then cross Whitford over to support Chesnut, and feel the enemy, to discover whether they have any infantry force behind their cavalry. Date your hours in telegrams.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD, *March 16, 1865.*

Col. S. D. POOL, *Goldsborough:*

Major Cameron has telegraphed you, and will again, about the transportation for the supplies named. Colonel Lipscomb is ordered to the enemy's Kinston front from the Fayetteville front, and will pass

Goldsborough to-morrow. Tell Chesnut to remain and report to Colonel Lipscomb on his arrival. Enemy's cavalry can be easily driven back. Guard well the railroad and county bridges over Neuse River, so as to keep open communication this way. Do not evacuate until driven away. No small force can do that. Colonel Whitford will remain for defense until ordered from here.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD, *March 16, 1865.*

Col. S. D. POOL,
Goldsborough:

General Hoke says fifty men deserted to enemy before Kinston from Sixth North Carolina Cavalry. Thirty-one said to have been captured at Kinston and sent to Richmond as Yankee prisoners. Get names of all the deserters from Colonel Baird and report them here. Will send a man to Richmond to identify.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD, *March 16, 1865.*

Col. S. D. POOL,
Goldsborough:

Let cotton be saved. Keep us advised.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD, *March 16, 1865.*

Col. J. N. WHITFORD,
Goldsborough:

Remain for protection of Goldsborough until otherwise ordered, or until driven away.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865—10.30 a. m.

General R. E. LEE:

General Hardee was yesterday five miles south of Averasborough. He was repeatedly attacked during the day by four divisions of the enemy, but always repulsed him. The enemy was reported at night to have crossed Black River to the east at various points with the rest of the army. General Hardee is moving to a point twelve miles from Smithfield. Schofield's troops are reported at Kinston, repairing the railroad bridge. Cheatham's corps not yet up. This railroad, with its enormous amount of rolling-stock, has brought us only about 500 men a day.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865.

His Excellency Governor VANCE,
Raleigh:

The railroad has brought us in the past thirteen days but some 500 men a day. I beg you to use your influence to improve its working for our benefit. We have troops at Salisbury, as well as wagons and teams, waiting for transportation. Enemy's army is along Black River. They attacked General Hardee repeatedly yesterday and were always repulsed, we think with very considerable loss.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865.

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE,
Raleigh:

The troops which attacked Hardee yesterday were the Fourteenth and most of the Twentieth Corps. Our loss between 400 and 500. Prisoners taken this morning give the Federal loss at 3,300.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Raleigh:

The enemy were attacking General Hardee's position five miles south of Averasborough all day yesterday; always repulsed. Our loss between 400 and 500. Prisoners taken this morning report Federal loss at 3,300. Please hurry S. D. Lee, and desire commanding officer at Salisbury to send on transportation and artillery horses along the railroad, to be taken up wherever they may meet trains.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865—2.30 p. m.*

General JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C.:

Telegraph superintendent here informs me General Hardee has ordered office at Barbee's closed and operator come here. I have ordered him to stop temporarily at Banks', twelve miles from here. General Hardee's order indicates movement of enemy on this place.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

(Same to General Bragg.)

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865—4 p. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C.:

Had already given orders referred to for General Lee to hurry up his infantry and for transportation and artillery horses from Salisbury to march to Greensborough. I will extend the order still further. I have ordered Gaston bridge to be floored.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865—8 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C.:

Have issued the orders as received, but if preferred all batteries can be stopped at Greensborough or Hillsborough and their horses only sent on.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, or
General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Smithfield, N. C.:

Pontoon train of Army of Tennessee may not be here in time. Lieutenant-Colonel Guion had one last spring with Hoke's expedition against New Berne. It might be well to secure its use.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

Report of the effective strength of the army March 17, 1865.

	Effective strength.	Total present.	Aggregate present.	Remarks.
Army of Tennessee, Lieut. Gen. A. P. Stewart commanding:				
Lee's corps	2,660	3,390	3,883	Cleburne's and Brown's divisions (Cheatham's corps) and the artillery not yet arrived.
Stewart's corps	890	1,349	1,513	
Bate's division	406	567	640	
Total army	3,956	5,306	6,036	
Hardee's corps, Lieut. Gen. W. J. Hardee commanding:				
McLaws' division	3,655	4,182	4,720	These figures are taken from the reports of the 14th.
Taliaferro's division	2,800	3,268	3,484	
Total	6,455	7,450	8,204	
Troops Department of North Carolina, General Braxton Bragg commanding:				
Hoke's division	4,775	4,988	5,447	
Recapitulation:				
Army of Tennessee	3,956	5,306	6,036	
Hardee's corps	6,455	7,450	8,204	
Troops Department of North Carolina	4,775	4,988	5,447	
Total infantry	15,186	17,744	19,687	

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Memorandum.)

Effective total artillery, Hardee's corps, 927; effective total artillery, Department of North Carolina, 782; artillery Army of Tennessee not yet arrived. In report of troops of Department of North Carolina, Colonel Whitford commanding Sixty-seventh and Sixty-eighth North Carolina Regiments belong to Hoke's Division, but being at Goldsborough their strength is only approximated. The Sixth North Carolina Cavalry is also at Goldsborough and Kinston. The Second South Carolina Cavalry is now moving to Goldsborough.

HEADQUARTERS,
Five Miles from Averasborough, on Averasborough and Smithfield Road, March 17, 1865—1 a. m.

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: There was little important fighting after my dispatch to you of 4.30 p. m. 16th instant. My loss is between 400 and 500. Among the missing is Colonel Rhett, commanding brigade, and among the killed Lieut. Col. Robert De Treville. Enemy's loss not known, but believed to be heavy. Two pieces of artillery were abandoned, the limber of one being blown off and the horses of both killed. Your dispatch of 4 p. m., countermanding the movement to Smithfield upon certain conditions, was received at 11 p. m., too late to arrest the movement. My trains had gone on to Elevation. I can, however, if you think it best, move from that point to Raleigh.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR BLACK RIVER,
March 17, 1865—4.30 a. m.

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 10 p. m. just received. The enemy has crossed Black River just above Mingo Creek, and at all, or nearly all, the crossings below. General Hampton says all the army has crossed except the Fourteenth Corps and one division of the Twentieth Corps, which were on the plank road, and which we fought yesterday. General Hampton promised to send you direct all the information of the enemy, else I would have been more particular. General Wheeler came to my assistance late yesterday afternoon and rendered valuable service. He is now in my rear with 500 or 600 men, and will ascertain whether the force on the plank road goes to Raleigh or crosses Black River. I hope to get my command to Elevation by 12 o'clock. The roads are almost impassable. At 1 o'clock Wheeler writes the enemy had not discovered my movement, but were busily engaged fortifying.

Respectfully,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865—6 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

Your dispatch of 1 a. m. received. If the enemy is moving on Raleigh I wish you to take the best and nearest route you can to that point. The troops here will join you on it, as far from Raleigh as practicable; so let us know your route as quickly as possible. Ascertain if there are bridges upon the road you take over three large creeks, Black, Middle, and Swift, the two last especially, which can only be crossed on bridges. If the enemy has not moved on Raleigh, but on Goldsborough or this place, then continue in this direction.

Very truly, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON.

NEAR BLACK RIVER,
March 17, 1865—7 a. m.

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: I dispatched you this morning at 4.30 o'clock, giving you the information you desire respecting the movements of the enemy, particularly the points at which they crossed Black River. The highest point at which they crossed was at Smith's Mill, half a mile above Mingo Creek. The other crossings were below. General Hampton reports all Sherman's army across Black River except the Fourteenth Corps and one division of the Twentieth Corps, which he stated was on the plank road. You inquire about the location of Elevation. My map places it midway between Averasborough and Smithfield, and at the intersection of the road running between these two places with the road running from Smith's Ferry to Raleigh. I have not heard from Wheeler since 1 a. m.

Very respectfully,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

P. S.—Hampton believes the enemy moving on Goldsborough.

W. J. HARDEE.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865—9 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: You had better halt at Elevation till you ascertain definitely the enemy's movements. Our nearest troops are about nine miles from that point. Schofield's force is reported at Kinston, repairing the railroad bridge.

Respectfully, &c.,

J. E. JOHNSTON.

ELEVATION, *March 17, 1865—1 p. m.*

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: I did not design moving beyond this point, but I find the map is incorrect and that the intersection of the roads is not at this point, but two miles nearer Smithfield, to which place I am moving. I do not believe the enemy is moving on Raleigh; if so, the force which has crossed Black River must come to this intersection, as there is no other road east of Black River on which he can move. I will endeavor to obtain all the information I can in reference to bridges, &c., on the road to Raleigh, and if the enemy should move there will keep in front of him. I send you a dispatch from Wheeler. To-day will develop the purposes of the enemy.

Very respectfully,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

P. S.—Your order relative to McLaws has been received. I instructed General Hampton to send General McLaws to me. He has not come. I have thought it best not to mention the order to any one till McLaws arrives.

W. J. H.

ELEVATION, *March 17, 1865—2.50 p. m.*

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: I send you a dispatch* from General Hampton, which I do not understand; it may be the roads he speaks of are better understood by you than me. I inclose two dispatches† from Wheeler. I can't believe the enemy intends a serious advance on this or the Raleigh road. If he divides his forces you will have the opportunity to concentrate and whip him. I have a brigade on Hannah's Creek to cover an advance in that direction. The surplus artillery, fifty-two pieces, ought to be at Leachburg to-night en route for Smithfield. Henderson's brigade is with it.

Respectfully,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865—7 p. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 2.50 p. m., covering notes from Major-General Wheeler and Lieutenant-General Hampton, received. Something must be done to-morrow morning, and yet I have no satisfactory information as to the enemy's movements. Can you give me any certain information of the position of the force you engaged yesterday, or any other, but especially that which you engaged? Send it immediately by a trusty and well mounted courier, to come all the way rapidly. The courier-line is very slow.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

P. S.—We must have your intelligence before daybreak.

J. E. J.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 16.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, March 17, 1865.

The lieutenant-general commanding thanks the officers and men of this command for their courage and conduct of yesterday, and congratulates them upon giving the enemy the first serious check he has received since leaving Atlanta. This command contended with the Fourteenth Army Corps, most of the Twentieth, Kilpatrick's cavalry command—three times their number—and while they sustained a loss of less than 500 men, they inflicted upon the enemy, by accounts of prisoners, a loss of 3,300. The lieutenant-general augurs happily of the future service and reputation of troops who have signalized the opening of the campaign by admirable steadiness, endurance, and courage.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See 7.15 a. m., p. 1414.
† See 6.30 and 6.40 a. m., p. 1416.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Charlotte, N. C.:

Important telegrams now at Winnsborough to go through to Augusta. Make arrangements to send them on immediately. Capt. R. Ward has been put in charge of an independent line of couriers from Columbia to Winnsborough, and General Fry has been ordered to extend his line to Winnsborough. Call on these officers for explanation of non-execution of orders.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Charlotte, N. C.:

Wagons referred to in dispatch of 15th should be turned over to Maj. Norman W. Smith, quartermaster, not Maj. W. H. Smith, commissary of subsistence. Please see to it.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Charlotte, N. C.:

Colonel Roman, Majors Bryan and Eustis will remain, respectively, at or about Augusta, Milledgeville, and Chester or Winnsborough, to inspect and direct movement of troops and supplies. Rest of staff, including yourself, will rejoin me wherever I may be.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. S. D. LEE,
Augusta:
(Via Winnsborough and Courier-Line.)

You must hasten with your infantry as rapidly as possible, leaving, if practicable, the artillery, pontoon, and wagon trains to follow under escort of one brigade.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
March 17, 1865—7 p. m.

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: On yesterday Major Edmonston turned over to me for my corps (before I was directed to take command of the Army of Tennessee) twelve wagons and one cart. Two wagons were retained for corps headquarters, six were given to Loring's division, four wagons and the cart to Walthall's. I learn that Major Edmonston also turned over either thirteen or fourteen wagons to Hill's corps. These were

sent for to-day to go to Bate, but I am informed they are out foraging, and cannot be had before to-morrow. So soon as they arrive they will be distributed so as to make a fair division between mine and Cheatham's corps. To-day five wagons received from Major Edmonston were given to Bate. I did not know until to-day of any wagons being turned over by Major Edmonston to Hill's corps. Loring and Walthall have each five four-horse wagons, which they brought from Goldsborough. Of the twelve wagons received for my corps yesterday there were six four-horse and six two-horse of those turned over to Hill's corps. I learn there were six or seven four-horse and seven two-horse. The five given to Bate were four-horse.

Very respectfully,

ALEX. P. STEWART,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, N. C., March 17, 1865—7.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General STEWART,
Commanding Army of Tennessee:

GENERAL: General Johnston desires you will procure immediately from Major Edmonston ten wagons and teams which he has here in charge of the post quartermaster for fair distribution to your corps and Bate's division. Estimating from the figures given in your note it would appear that your corps has now one four-horse wagon for every seventy-nine men, and Bate's division one for every 128; besides some other brigades of Cheatham's corps have just arrived. Hence, the larger proportion of these ten wagons, all things considered, should go to Cheatham's corps. These wagons should be procured to-night, as we must be ready to move to-morrow morning at daybreak.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *March 17, 1865—9.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General STEWART,
Commanding Army of Tennessee:

GENERAL: General Johnston directs that you hold your command in readiness to move at dawn to-morrow morning.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
March 17, 1865—10.45 p. m.

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

If the ten wagons which have just come were distributed proportionally to Bate, Loring, and Walthall, it would give Bate four, Loring five, and Walthall one. This would give them four-horse wagons in proportion to number of men. Not knowing how many more of

Cheatham's troops have arrived, and to make sure of giving them their share, I will send eight of these wagons to them and two to Loring. To-day the command received orders to have three days cooked rations from to-morrow morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALEX. P. STEWART,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR BLACK RIVER BRIDGE,
March 17, 1865—4.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON:

GENERAL: All attacks of the enemy were repelled yesterday. General Hardee will to-day march to Elevation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

LASSELLE'S HOUSE,
Near Intersection of Smithfield and Goldsborough Roads,
March 17, 1865—7.15 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

GENERAL: I find the enemy on the roads leading from Stallings and Graham's Bridges. They camped last night where the road from the latter to Goldsborough crosses the Clinton and Smithfield road. I shall leave a strong picket at McDonald's Cross-Roads, with directions to fall back, if forced to do so, on the Smithfield road, thus covering your line of march. The rest of the force here I shall put on the Goldsborough road to assist in covering that point. If any portion of my command is now on the Smithfield road, and you can spare it, do send it on the Goldsborough road to join me. I shall be on the latter road to-day. If General Wheeler is with you will you advise him of my movements? I should like to hear the result of your fight yesterday. I hope it was successful, and that your casualties were light.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Willis Cole's House, on Goldsborough Road,
Three Miles southwest of Bentonville, March 17, 1865—6 p. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

GENERAL: I inclose you two dispatches just received from General Butler which show his position.* Cobb's Mill is one mile from Beaman's Cross-Roads on road leading to Goldsborough. Blackman Lee's is on the Clinton and Smithfield road. I think that the enemy is moving on Goldsborough and his right will strike the Weldon and Wilmington Railroad at or below Faison's Depot. From the dispatch of General Johnston which you sent to me I infer that General Bragg's forces have all been withdrawn to Smithfield, except the 1,000 men-

* Only one found; see 3 p. m., p. 1421.

tioned as being on the Neuse River, above Kinston. I understand from citizens that the bridge at Goldsborough has been destroyed. I will keep in front of the enemy, between him and Smithfield and Goldsborough, until the very last moment, but the destruction of the bridge at Goldsborough will render it necessary for me to go above to cross the Neuse River. The position of the enemy's cavalry has not been sufficiently ascertained, but small bodies of cavalry have been observed in advance of their army, and but few prisoners have been taken from their cavalry. I fear that it may have moved up on the west side of the Cape Fear River, endeavoring to strike at our trains or to reach the railroad at Raleigh. Some disposition should be made to counteract such a movement. Two regiments of cavalry were left on the west side of the Cape Fear River, and Crews' brigade, which has been with General Stewart's corps, should be near enough to come between them and Raleigh, if they are moving in that direction. Colonel Dibrell's train, with four pieces of artillery, was two days' march behind the rest of Wheeler's wagons when last heard from, and Butler's wagons were, I understand, ordered from Charlotte to Raleigh. These trains would be in danger if the enemy's cavalry is on the west of the Cape Fear River. I will unite Dibrell's brigade with Butler to-morrow and impede the enemy all I can. Hart's battery (horse artillery) joined me to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865—10 p. m.

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Please send me by the bearer all the information you have of the movement and position of the enemy, the number of their columns, their location and distance apart, and distance from Goldsborough, and give me your opinion whether it is practicable to reach them from Smithfield on the south side of the river before they reach Goldsborough.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 17, 1865—12.45 a. m.

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: On arriving at General Hardee's position yesterday morning I found him engaged with the enemy, and fought with him until dark. In obedience to his instructions General Allen will move on his right, to cover that flank while moving to Smithfield, and I remain with Ashby's command to cover his rear. Any communication will reach me at Elevation to-day.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

MARCH 17, 1865—4.30 a. m.

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: Lieutenant-General Hardee begs that you will not leave Averasborough to-day until the enemy make their appearance, and that you will endeavor to ascertain whether the enemy are going to Raleigh or Smithfield.

Respectfully,

T. B. ROY.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Averasborough, March 17, 1865—6.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Commanding:

GENERAL: A prisoner of Fourteenth Corps brought in this morning states that his corps and most of the Twentieth were engaged in the fight yesterday; that Kilpatrick commenced the fight, but retired soon as the infantry came up; that the loss in his brigade was about 300, and of the whole command was about 3,300 men; that General Slocum was on the field and commanded the forces. He thinks Kilpatrick came up to the front this morning. He says General Slocum told his men that they were fighting 15,000 men. Their officers told them they thought they were commanded by General Hardee. The enemy are advancing this morning.

Respectfully, &c.,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 17, 1865—6.40 a. m.

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The prisoner captured this morning states that their army are going to Goldsborough and not to Raleigh. Your dispatch of 4.30 this a. m. received, and its instructions will be obeyed.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Averasborough, March 17, 1865—9.05 a. m.

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE:

GENERAL: The enemy have advanced very near this place with a line of battle of infantry. Cavalry has also been seen. When driven back [*sic.*] I will turn off toward Smithfield with my main force, and will send a regiment on the road toward Raleigh. I do not think the enemy will go farther toward Raleigh than where the road turns off to Smithfield. Colonel Ashby has sent off all the wounded which could travel, and has left rations for such as were not able to travel. He has also a force keeping up all stragglers.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 17, 1865—10.40 a. m.

Lieut. Col. T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Your dispatch received. I did leave one regiment Texas Rangers to fall back on the Raleigh road. It cannot yet be determined whether the enemy will move on that road. They are now advancing on this. They are as yet but a short distance from the fork.

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 17, 1865—11.10 a. m.

Lieut. Col. T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: The enemy marched a short distance up the Raleigh road, skirmishing with the Eighth Texas, but have advanced farther on this road. The indications are that the advance will be upon this road.

Respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Elevation, March 17, 1865—4 p. m.

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: Allen reports at 1 p. m. that the enemy are advancing on his road and that he was skirmishing with them four miles from the bridge over Black River, on which he crossed last night. The Raleigh and Wilmington road does not cross the Smithfield road at Elevation, as laid down on the maps, but two miles beyond toward Smithfield. General Hardee's headquarters to-night will be about a mile beyond the intersection toward Smithfield.

Very respectfully,

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Willis Cole's House, on Goldsborough Road,
Three Miles southwest of Bentonville. March 17, 1865—6.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to say that as the position of the enemy's cavalry has not been sufficiently defined, he fears that they may have moved up on the west side of the Cape Fear River, endeavoring to strike at our wagon trains or at the railroad at Raleigh. The two regiments which were left west of the Cape Fear River should, he thinks, give information of such a movement, and Crews' brigade ought before this time to have been in a position to protect the trains or Raleigh.

Have you any information of Dibrell's trains, which, when last heard from were two days behind yours, or of Butler's, which were ordered

from Charlotte to Raleigh? Have you any information from the enemy's cavalry? Can you do anything to insure the safety of the trains? General Hampton thinks that the enemy is marching on Goldsborough, and that his right will strike the Wilmington railroad at or below Faison's Depot. Butler is to-night at Blackman Lee's, on the Clinton and Smithfield road, about six miles from this point. General Hampton will unite Dibrell with him to-morrow. He desires you, after you have sufficiently covered General Hardee's movements, to send all the cavalry you can spare to join him on the Smithfield and Goldsborough road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Draughan's Cross-Roads, March 17, 1865—7 a. m.

Major McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

You will please inform General Hampton that a scout who went inside of the enemy's picket last night to recover the body of one of his men, reports that they saw two large camps, both on the Goldsborough road—the farthest camp from Graham's Bridge was about two miles, the other between that and the bridge. The Yankees told all the citizens that they would move on the Goldsborough road this morning. The scout thinks there is a brigade of cavalry in front; that they saw a great many horses in the camps. A great many were straggling in the country around camps. Our captures yesterday, about 40. Loss, 1 killed, and 1 lieutenant missing.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

P. S.—I understand the Third Alabama has gone on the Smithfield road. Shall I send a regiment on that road?

G. G. D.

HEADQUARTERS WILLIAMS' BRIGADE,
March 17, 1865.

Col. G. G. DIBRELL:

COLONEL: I inclose a dispatch from Captain Howell, which I received late last night. By the "straight forward" road he means the Stallings Bridge road. Jackson's is the intersection of the Clinton road with the Goldsborough and Graham's Bridge road, six miles from the picket base, and is the road which the Second South Carolina picketed yesterday.

Respectfully,

W. C. P. BRECKINRIDGE,
Colonel, &c.

[Inclosure.]

MARCH 16, 1865.

COLONEL: My scouts on the straight forward road found the enemy camped at, or near, the mill, and on the right and left as far as they could see. The scouts on the left-hand road found the enemy camped

at, or near, Mr. Jackson's. They came in that road this side of Jackson's this evening, and went in that direction. There are several roads leading out to the left, this side of Jackson's. My pickets cover the first road.

J. L. HOWELL,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
Hodges, March 17, 1865—7 a. m.

Lieutenant HARDEE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that after crossing the river I moved out six miles on the Smithfield road, and went into camp. I have sent scouts to Draughan's Cross-Roads, and to all the points on the river until it gets as low as the point at which it is intersected by Mingo Creek. None of these scouts have as yet reported.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, on Smithfield Road, March 17, 1865—11.15 a. m.

Lieut. Col. T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to inform you that the enemy's cavalry have made their appearance in my front on this road; force not yet ascertained. I am moving down to meet them. I am about twenty miles from Smithfield, on the New Cut road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, March 17, 1865—2.30 p. m.

Lieut. Col. T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to say that an officer from my picket, which is four miles from the bridge near which I crossed last night on this road, reports that he saw men with knapsacks, but I am of opinion that the force which has been skirmishing with my picket there are all mounted—perhaps mounted infantry. Firing having been heard in direction of the bridge where the Averasborough and Smithfield road crosses Black River, I shall retire my main body on this road, so as to prevent the enemy gaining my rear in the event of his crossing at that bridge, but shall leave my picket in its present position.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, March 17, 1865—6 p. m.

Lieut. Col. T. B. ROY, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to inform you that until about 4 p. m. I occupied the line which I took up this morning about five miles from the bridge near which I crossed last night. The enemy has skirmished with my pickets pretty constantly since 11 a. m. This afternoon a dismounted force charged, but failed to drive the reserve picket from its position. Having heard that the infantry had probably crossed Mingo Creek, I shall go into camp on the east side of it. I shall have a sufficiency of forage for the night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, March 17, 1865—6 p. m.

Lieutenant HUDSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Wheeler's Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you that your communication dated 7.10 a. m., stating that General Wheeler would move back toward Elevation, and directing me to communicate with you, was not received until about two hours ago. Until that time I had occupied a line about five miles from the bridge on which Colonel Ashby crossed Black River last evening. The enemy has skirmished with the regiment I had on picket, since about 11 a. m., but has failed to drive it from its position. About an hour since they charged it with a dismounted line. I am disposed to think it was nothing but cavalry. I have crossed Mingo Creek and shall encamp to-night on the eastern side of it. The position is a very strong one against small-arms. Crossing it, however, leaves open a road running on the west side of it to the road you are on, and intersecting it, I imagine, in your rear. At present my regiment on picket is more than two miles in advance of this road; and should you inform me to-night that your position is in advance of the point at which it intersects the road you are on, I will direct the officer commanding the picket to notify you, should he have to uncover it. I am informed that General Hardee has reached the point at which this road intersects the Wilmington and Raleigh road, about five miles in rear of this position. My headquarters for the night will be in the woods near my camp.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
On Averasborough and Goldsborough Road,
March 17, 1865—12.40 p. m.

Maj. Gen. M. C. BUTLER, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to inform you that he will be with Dibrell's division to-night at the intersection of this road with the road from Fayetteville to Smithfield. He will have pickets sta-

tioned at Blackman Lee's Store on the latter road, and on this road also. He desires to hear from you to know where you have your command, and what information you have of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
McLain's Cross-Roads, March 17, 1865—3 p. m.

[Maj. H. B. McCLELLAN:]

MAJOR: I sent you a dispatch at 1 p. m. by a party of Colonel Dibrell's scouts, giving my position and stating that the enemy had reached Cobb's Mill, six miles to my rear, and that I had taken a prisoner from the Fifteenth Corps, who said that his corps was ordered to take the right at Ray's Store. I have since taken two prisoners from same corps who says that two divisions of his corps is to march toward Rob. Lee's Store (where they were taken). I have moved my command across the Big Cohera, near Blackman Lee's, where I will await orders. The enemy was in three miles of Clinton yesterday evening.

Respectfully, &c.,

M. C. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Salisbury, March 17, 1865

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

Just arrived here. Owing to great scarcity supplies, high water, and bad roads, had to cross at different ferries along Pedee. About 200 Butler's cavalry, left with me, crossed at Stanback's; Black's regiment, 300 strong, at Christian's; 150 men of Fifth Tennessee at ferries above. Gaillard's battery and Kirk's battalion are now crossing at Stokes' Ferry, with orders to march to Lexington. I shall await your orders before I move them from Lexington. All the others are ordered to Raleigh. I would like to visit you at Raleigh. The condition of affairs in South Carolina compels me to send Colonel Colcock, Third South Carolina Cavalry, back, three squadrons of his regiment having been left in Orangeburg. An efficient officer of rank, fully empowered, should be sent to South Carolina [to] suppress insurrection, capture marauders, and encourage agriculture. Two regiments of Yankee cavalry dashed into Florence on the 5th, but were driven ten miles by a portion of Fifth Tennessee and a squadron of Colcock's cavalry.

B. H. ROBERTSON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865.

Brig. Gen. B. H. ROBERTSON,
Salisbury:

Dispatch received. General Johnston directs you recall Colcock's regiment to rejoin your brigade. Troops have been provided for South Carolina. Bring on your brigade to unite with this army, reporting progress by telegraph.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865—8.45 a. m.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: General Johnston desires you will at once have an intrenchment thrown up near Goldsborough, so as to enable the brigade you have there to detain the enemy as long as possible, should they advance from Kinston. Such a work would certainly gain us time. It might be well to send your negro force there by rail to labor upon it.

I am, general, very respectfully, &c.,
ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
March 17, 1865.

Major-General HOKE,
Commanding:

General commanding directs me to say that information from General Hardee last night tends to the belief he has fallen back before the enemy to within six or eight miles of your front. You will have your command well in hand, ready to move forward at a moment's notice.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD, *March 17, 1865—9 p. m.*

Major-General HOKE,
Commanding:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you be ready to march early in the morning. Your note of this afternoon received. The field return sent up this morning was in response to General Johnston's call, and he wants one such semi-weekly, say on Mondays and Fridays. I am not advised that the regular tri-monthly returns to be forwarded to the War Department are to be dispensed with.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,
JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*

Maj. J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta:

MAJOR: General Beauregard directs that yourself and Colonel Roman will remain in Augusta to inspect and hasten forward to the front troops and supplies. Major Bryan, assistant inspector-general, will repair to Chester or Winnsborough, S. C., for the purpose of performing similar service. Upon the receipt of this communication, should you be this side of Augusta, en route to this point, yourself and Colonel Roman will come to Chester and there execute the instructions above given. In this event Major Bryan, assistant inspector-general, will repair to this point and perform the duty before assigned him at Chester. I inclose herewith copy of order given Major McCrady, engineer, in relation to the repair of railroad, and one to General

Lee,* directing disposition to be made of a portion of wagon-train of the Army of Tennessee. See that they are executed. Please extend this order to Colonel Roman and Major Bryan. The remainder of the staff you will order to rejoin the general without delay, wherever he may be.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*

Major MCCRADY, *Engineer, &c.:*

MAJOR: General Beauregard directs that you push on rapidly repairs of roads from Chester to Georgia road, via Winnsborough, Alston, Abbeville, and Washington. You will report weekly progress.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. B. D. FRY, *Augusta, Ga.:*

GENERAL: General Beauregard instructs me to inquire why the extension of the courier-line, directed to be made from Columbia to Winnsborough, has not been done. Important messages have been delayed at Winnsborough in consequence of this failure. He desires the line before mentioned put into operation at once.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*

Maj. ALLEN J. GREEN, *Chester:*

Important dispatches for Augusta delayed at Winnsborough, courier-line not having been extended from Columbia to that point as ordered. Send at once, and have them sent through to Columbia, thence by courier-line to Augusta. Act promptly and report. Direct Captain Ward to put himself in communication with these headquarters, that he may receive orders.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865.*

Maj. Gen. P. M. B. YOUNG, *Augusta, Ga.:*

General Fry has been ordered to extend his courier-line to Winnsborough to connect with telegraph. This has not been done. See to it at once and report.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*See Otey to Lee, 7.30 p. m. 16th, p. 1399.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865—4 p. m.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

Send forward troops, artillery, and wagons rapidly as possible, sending horses along railroad, to be taken up on cars whenever practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 17, 1865—7.30 p. m.*

Maj. E. WILLIS,
Chief Quartermaster, Salisbury, N. C.:

Stop all artillery without horses at Greensborough. Send on all artillery horses.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

Abstract from field return of Hoke's division for March 17, 1865. (*a*)

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.				Heavy.	Field.
Staff	14	.....	.....	14	15	.....	.....
Hagood's brigade	79	890	949	1,110	4,799	.....	.....
Nethercutt's brigade (Junior Reserves)	92	1,121	1,135	1,261	2,848	.....	.....
Kirkland's brigade	77	975	1,016	1,124	2,553	.....	.....
Colquitt's brigade	114	1,052	1,118	1,300	2,595	.....	.....
Clingman's brigade	49	536	557	638	2,771	.....	.....
Light artillery battalion	32	657	782	842	1,059	.....	41
Grand total	457	5,231	5,557	6,289	16,640	.....	41

a Colonel Whitford's command of the Sixty-seventh and Sixty-eighth North Carolina Regiments now belong to Hoke's division, but being at Goldsborough only an approximate estimate of the force can be given. The Sixth North Carolina Cavalry is also at Goldsborough and Kinston. The Second South Carolina Cavalry is now moving to Goldsborough. We have no report from the cavalry. The Fifty-sixth North Carolina Regiment, Kirkland's brigade, and Tenth North Carolina Battalion are with General Hardee. Sixty-seventh North Carolina Regiment, about 700; Sixty-eighth North Carolina Regiment, about 300; total, 1,000.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865.

Col. T. J. LIPSCOMB, *Goldsborough:*

COLONEL: Your dispatch of 16th instant per courier is received, saying that you will move at daylight this morning to the Goldsborough front as ordered. You will observe that the numerous applications from your regiment for furloughs to dismounted men are returned disapproved. There is an act of Congress, not yet published, providing for all cavalry horses to be turned over to the Government at valuation, and the men to be afterward kept mounted at public expense. I am almost sure there is such a law recently passed, though it is not yet promulgated in orders. You were authorized from this place a few days ago to cause impressments to be made to the Fayetteville front under certain restrictions. The authority is renewed wherever you may be, under same restrictions. It has also been granted to your quartermaster as to mules for your train, by indorsement upon his

application of 4th instant, received and returned to-day. The general is still unwilling the command should be dispersed to the rear upon such impressments. Until your dismounted men are remounted would it not be well for them to act as infantry in concert with those now defending Goldsborough?

Very respectfully, colonel,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Smithfield, March 17, 1865.

Col. S. D. POOL, *Goldsborough:*

The general commanding directs me to say to you that under orders from army headquarters, Captain James, assistant engineer, with a negro force, has been ordered to proceed immediately to Goldsborough to throw up intrenchments, with the view to defending the place against the advance reported by you. You will make your arrangements to hold it as long as it can be made tenable, and proceed with removing supplies under former orders.

Very respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD, *March 17, 1865.*

Col. S. D. POOL, *Goldsborough, N. C.:*

Your dispatches by train and telegraph received. Captain Chesnut's reports had induced the belief enemy were in force on south side the river. He should keep nearer the enemy and be more accurate in future.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD, *March 17, 1865—9.30 p. m.*

Col. S. D. POOL, *Goldsborough:*

Lipscomb was to start to Goldsborough from near South River at dawn this morning, and ought to be there before this. A courier would probably meet him on the Fayetteville road.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, *March 18, 1865.*

General BRECKINRIDGE, *Secretary of War, Richmond:*

I cannot possibly consent to the widening of the gauge of North Carolina road east of Salisbury. It will be ruinous to the State and I can see no real necessity for it. Please stop it until the matter can be consulted upon.

Z. B. VANCE.

[MARCH 18, 1865.—For Lee to Breckinridge, relating to operations in North Carolina, see Part I, p. 1046.]

SMITHFIELD, *March 18, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:

The troops will be united to-day, except two divisions of Cheatham's corps not yet arrived. Effective totals, infantry and artillery: Bragg, 6,500; Hardee, 7,500; Army of Tennessee, 4,000. Should Sherman move by Weldon would you prefer my turning to Clarksville? Lieutenant-General Hardee's loss on 16th was 450. Prisoners taken the next day report the enemy's about 3,300.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 18, 1865.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C.:

There are no flat-cars here at present. They will be sent as soon as practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 18, 1865—12.30 p. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C.:

Operator at Banks', twelve miles south this place, should be informed in time of approach of enemy in this direction. Please give necessary orders.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, *March 18, 1865.*

Lieut. Col. JOHN M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Upon the Wilmington and Weldon, the Petersburg, and the Seaboard and Roanoke Railroads there are probably nineteen efficient locomotives and 150 cars. These are engaged in transportation upon their respective roads and, to a certain extent, in assisting the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad. Their services are necessary for collecting the supplies of the sections of country into which they lead, which supplies are eventually forwarded to the Army of Northern Virginia, except so far as necessary for the support of the cavalry stationed in the vicinity of Stony Creek. If the enemy occupy Raleigh this equipment would be in great danger if he moves in the direction of Weldon. The consideration of the question as to the orders I am to give to the superintendents of these several roads I respectfully submit to the commanding general.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. ROBINSON,
Military Superintendent of Railroads.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, &C.,
Raleigh, N. C., March 21, 1865.

Respectfully referred to General Jos. E. Johnston for his orders.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, N. C., March 18, 1865—6.45 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: General Johnston directs that you put your command in motion for Bentonville by the shortest route, unless the enemy are advancing in force up the Averasborough and Smithfield road; in that case, on receiving prompt notice from you, all our columns could be turned on that force. The sheriff of this county represents that there is a road leading from a point two miles this side of Elevation and striking the Averasborough and Goldsborough road a little to the west of Bentonville. The troops here are moving directly on Bentonville, and General Johnston desires you to be immediately on their right. Please give information to General Wheeler and desire him to make frequent reports.

Respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Any incumbrances in your trains, &c., not necessary to field operations, should be sent to the railroad.

Respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 18, 1865—7.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: General Johnston desires that you will not take your reserve artillery with you in the expedition on foot, but send it to the neighborhood of this place. In respect of baggage, you should move as light as possible.

Very respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
March 17 [18?], 1865—8.50 a. m.

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Your order directing me to put my command in motion immediately for Bentonville has just been received. It will be promptly obeyed, but I am ignorant of the road you designate, and that must first be found. I have instructed Wheeler to report the movements of the enemy both to you and to me. Inform me whenever General Johnston changes his headquarters.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR BENTONVILLE, *March 18, 1865—9.30 p. m.*

General HARDEE:

General Johnston desires you will report immediately where you are encamped to-night, giving the distance from this place. Dispatch is

important. It is of great consequence that you should be here as early as possible to-morrow morning. Please say at what hour you went into camp.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SNEED'S HOUSE, *March 18, 1865—9.50 p. m.*

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: This house is five miles from Bentonville. My command is about a mile in rear. I shall start at 4 o'clock, so as to reach Bentonville at an early hour in the morning. I did not reach camp till after dark, but if it be necessary I can start my command at an earlier hour. Major Poole, who will deliver this dispatch, will give you all the news respecting the enemy.

Respectfully,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, N. C., March 18, 1865—6.45 a. m.

Lieutenant-General STEWART,
Commanding Army of Tennessee:

GENERAL: General Johnston directs that you immediately put your command in motion for Bentonville. General Bragg's troops will be four or five miles ahead of you on the same road.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Bentonville, March 18, 1865—11 p. m.

Lieutenant-General STEWART,
Commanding Army of Tennessee:

GENERAL: Lieutenant-General Hardee encamps to-night about six miles from here, and will move for this place at 3 o'clock in the morning. General Johnston desires you will have your command put quietly under arms at dawn to-morrow. The wagon trains will not move beyond this place. Lieutenant-General Hampton reports the enemy encamped to-night on the Averasborough and Goldsborough road, three miles west of the point at which the road we are on enters it.

I am, general, very respectfully, &c.,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Bragg.)

HEADQUARTERS,
March 18, 1865—7 a. m.

General HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Your dispatch, covering one from General Wheeler, was received this morning. The Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps advanced yesterday to Averasborough and moved out about two miles on the

Smithfield and Raleigh roads, but retired back to Averasborough in the afternoon. If your information be correct that the Seventeenth and Fifteenth Corps are moving on Goldsborough, we may reasonably conclude that the force at Averasborough will move to-day in the same direction. I can't think that two corps would move on Raleigh; if so, General Johnston will concentrate and whip them. General Wheeler has one regiment on the Raleigh road; the rest of his forces is divided between this road, Smithfield, and the road immediately south of it. Wheeler is on the Smithfield road, Allen on the other. Wheeler's entire force is needed here; indeed, I think it ought to be increased. My headquarters are eight miles from Smithfield, and will not be moved to-day unless the movements of the enemy should render it necessary. I have no news from Richmond or any other points.

Very respectfully,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 18, 1865—7.40 a. m.

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON:

Your dispatch of 1.35 a. m. received by Courier Jackson. We will go to the place at which your dispatch was written. The scheme mentioned in my note, which you pronounce practicable, will be attempted. Send all the information you can bearing upon it.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

GOLDSBOROUGH AND AVERASBOROUGH ROAD,
Twenty Miles from Goldsborough, March 18, 1865—9 a. m.

General [JOHNSTON:]

I reached General Hampton's headquarters at 12 last night and extended to him your instructions. I urged upon him the necessity of frequent and full dispatches. I will return to-day.

Respectfully,

W. HAMPTON, JR.,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

AT FORKS OF SMITHFIELD AND GOLDSBOROUGH ROADS,
Eighteen Miles from Smithfield, March 18, 1865—11.15 a. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding;

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to inform you that the enemy is advancing in a considerable force of infantry on his position at this place. He has not yet ascertained what corps it is, but the force is large. He has left one regiment at this place to fall back on the road to Smithfield and give you all information. With the main part of his force he will retire on the road toward Goldsborough. He is making dispositions on the field, and has directed me to write and sign this dispatch.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. MCCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
One Mile west of Cole's House, March 18, 1865—2.30 p. m.

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: I took position at this place, the junction of the Fayetteville and Goldsborough with the Averasborough and Goldsborough roads, two hours ago, and have been skirmishing with the enemy since. I can hold him here for several hours more, and I do not think his advance will get beyond this point to-night. One regiment was sent on the Smithfield road, with directions to watch the enemy and report all his movements to you. He may push one column up that road in hopes of crossing the river above and below Goldsborough at the same time. Wheeler can guard all the roads leading toward Smithfield from west and south, and I have written to him to do so. As soon as he can spare any troops from that duty I wish them to join me. The infantry have not yet reached this point. I have not yet learned the strength of the force opposed to me, nor what force it is, but I hope to get some prisoners soon. I think the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps camped near Beaman's Cross-Roads last night.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

I have not communicated with General Hardee since my last dispatch of last night, as I do not know his position, and I suppose you keep him advised of all information.

HEADQUARTERS,
Bentonville, March 18, 1865—11 p. m.

Lieutenant-General HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Lieutenant-General Hardee encamped six miles from here to-night, and will be in motion for this place at 3 o'clock in the morning. General Johnston directs me to inform you that the movement you discussed together will be made as soon after dawn to-morrow as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 18, 1865—12.45 a. m.

Lieut. Col. T. B. ROY:

Your dispatch of 9.30 p. m. received. Prisoners captured late yesterday evening state that the Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps moved only a short distance yesterday. Some thought their army going to Raleigh, others to Goldsborough. If they move farther on either this or the Raleigh road it will be known at once, and information will be promptly sent you. It is impossible yet to say whether they move out on the Raleigh road simply to get possession of the mills on Stewart's Creek or whether they design moving toward Raleigh. I have sent several dispatches to you since Captain Gilchrist left me.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 18, 1865—5.40 a. m.

Lieut. Col. T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Four of our prisoners escaped from the Fourteenth Corps last night about midnight. They think the enemy are marching toward Goldsborough, and say the Fourteenth Corps crossed Black River at some point below here last night. I have heard of no advance on either this or the Raleigh road this morning. If the enemy do advance toward Raleigh I will notify you immediately.

Respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Smithfield, March 18, 1865—6.45 a. m.

[General HARDEE:]

GENERAL: General Johnston directs that you put your command immediately in motion for Bentonville by the shortest route, unless the enemy are advancing in force up the Averasborough and Smithfield road; in that case, on receiving prompt notice from you, all our columns could be turned on that force. The sheriff of this county represents that there is a road leading from a point two miles this side of Elevation and striking the Averasborough and Goldsborough road a little to the west of Bentonville. The troops here are moving directly on Bentonville, and General Johnston desires you to be immediately on their right. Please give information to General Wheeler and desire him to make frequent reports.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, Four Miles from Elevation, March 18, 1865.

[General WHEELER:]

GENERAL: General Hardee desires that you will make reports to him and also to General Johnston direct.

Respectfully,

D. H. POOLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Smithfield and Averasborough Road, near Black River,
March 18, 1865—10.40 a. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I am just in receipt of your dispatch, through General Hardee, directing me to report the movements of the enemy direct to you as well as to others of my superior officers. My present information is that the day after fighting General Hardee the Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps moved up to Averasborough. The Twentieth

moved up the Raleigh road as far as Stewart's Creek and put some mills to work. The Fourteenth turned to the right and crossed Black River at a point nearly east of Averasborough. The Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps are on the right of the Fourteenth, and, I hear, have crossed Black River. Kilpatrick's cavalry is, I think, with the Fourteenth Corps. I am certain it was near that corps yesterday. I have pickets on the Raleigh road, and no move has been reported on that road this morning. I shall soon hear which way the Twentieth Corps moved after reaching Stewart's Creek. Some of my scouts, who were in Fayetteville day before yesterday, report that all of the enemy had crossed Cape Fear River and had taken up their pontoon bridge. Some of my men escaped from Fourteenth Corps last night after dark and report that corps did not go into camp until about 10 o'clock. They think Sherman's army is marching toward Goldsborough and not toward Raleigh. The cavalry in front of Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps is, at present, reporting direct to General Hampton and not to me.

With highest regards, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Averasborough and Smithfield Road, March 18, 1865—10.50 a. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have just heard from General Allen, who is in front of the Fourteenth Corps on the new road leading to Smithfield, which runs nearly parallel with this road and is three or four miles south of it. He reports the enemy advancing upon him this morning. He captured prisoners from both Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps. Thus far no advance reported on this or the Raleigh road.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Averasborough and Smithfield Road, March 18, 1865—11.30 a. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Department, &c.:

GENERAL: Scouts just in report that portion of the Twentieth Corps which moved up to Stewart's Creek on the Raleigh road have returned to Averasborough. I presume it will turn off and cross Black River at the same point the Fourteenth Corps crossed it. By crossing at that point they can go either to Smithfield or Goldsborough.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

[MARCH 18, 1865.—For Wheeler to McClellan, 11.45 a. m., reporting operations, see Part I, p. 1127.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
March 18, 1865—2.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER:

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to inform you that he is in line on the Averasborough and Goldsborough road near Mr. Willis Cole's house, which is about eighteen miles from Smithfield and three miles from Bentonville.

He is expecting an attack by the enemy. He desires you to send all the cavalry you can spare over this way to guard all the roads which lead from this road to the Averasborough and Smithfield road. Please notify him of your position and operations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN.

HEADQUARTERS, &c.,
March 18, 1865—8 a. m.

Major McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

You will please inform General Hampton that my scouts met the advance of the enemy (mounted) just beyond the Clinton road, charged and drove them back more than a mile upon a column of infantry on the road we came yesterday. They are now skirmishing with my pickets at the Clinton road, about one mile in front of this position. I have heard a few guns in the direction of the road General Butler is upon.

Very respectfully, &c.,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, &c.

[Indorsement.]

ON ROAD, *March 18, 1865—8.45 a. m.*

Respectfully forwarded.

This may be the column which engaged General Hardee, or it is one thrown from the Fayetteville and Goldsborough road. A good opportunity to strike them in flank now offers. There is a road from Smithfield by Bentonville to this road.

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
March 18, 1865—9.15 p. m.

Major McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I inclose you reports of Colonel Breckinridge's scouts. Major Austin reports further that he saw a boy who said he came through the enemy's camps this p. m. on the road upon which we traveled, and that they were camped for three miles back. The regiment upon the Smithfield road reports that a few of the enemy had crossed Stony Creek at Lee's Bridge, and that they were busily engaged at work on the bridge as if trying to repair it. I have ordered them to send out scouts during the night and report the exact locality of this camp.

Very respectfully,

G. G. DIBRELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS WILLIAMS' BRIGADE,
March 18, 1865—5 a. m.

Col. G. G. DIBRELL,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

A scout of the First Kentucky has just returned, having been gone since 9 o'clock last night. They report the enemy camped in large force at the junction of the Goldsborough and Smithfield roads where we put up rail-works yesterday. He thinks the encampment extends about a mile up the Smithfield road, the same distance in this direction, and back beyond where we first formed yesterday.

Respectfully,

WM. C. P. BRECKINRIDGE,
Colonel, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS WILLIAMS' BRIGADE,
March 18, 1865—7.30 p. m.

[Col. G. G. DIBRELL:]

COLONEL: Lieutenant-Colonel Griffith, First Kentucky, has just returned with his regiment. He reports that he found the enemy encamped at the forks of the Smithfield and Goldsborough roads, near the last rail-works occupied this evening by the Ninth Kentucky, on horseback. He thinks that it is not a general encampment of a corps; but the force was far too strong to be attacked by his regiment. He saw no signs of infantry having passed that point coming this way. He left one company under Captain Johnson with instructions to remain until he could learn the probable force and intentions of the enemy.

8 p. m.—Captain Johnson has returned. He thinks the encampment reported by Colonel Griffith consists of not more than 1,500 or 2,000 men. His movements being discovered, and a column of cavalry pursuing, he was forced to retire without further information. I have ordered another scout to attempt to go completely around the encampment.

8.15 o'clock.—Major Austin has returned with his regiment. He reports that he traveled a road running parallel with the Goldsborough road, which we traveled to-day about a mile from it, and intersecting the Smithfield road near where it leaves the Goldsborough road. He found an extensive encampment at the place reported by Colonel Griffith. He learned from citizens living in the vicinity, and one who passed through the camp, that it consists of one corps, and Yankee soldiers told the citizens their destination was Smithfield.

Respectfully,

WM. C. P. BRECKINRIDGE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ALLEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
March 18, 1865—3.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to say that I did not in my dispatch of last evening intend to say that the enemy's infantry had crossed Mingo

Creek. I said "hearing that the infantry had crossed," &c., and meant our infantry. The creek I have been skirmishing on to-day is three miles in front of Mingo. Finding this evening that the road from Stallings Bridge to Smithfield was open, I have sent a squadron to Draughan's Cross-Roads to picket that road. There is no other force on it. Colonel Dibrell did at one time cover this road, but it seems has moved farther to the left.

Very respectfully, &c.,

WM. W. ALLEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS YOUNG'S CAVALRY BRIGADE,
March 18, 1865.

Major PRESTON:

Ashby has just returned and reports the enemy encamped principally beyond and around Blackman Lee's Store; also a small camp about two miles this side, where the Goldsborough road leaves the road from Lee's to this place, with pickets a short distance this side the latter camp. The scouts sent out for prisoners have not returned yet.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. J. WRIGHT.
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Smithfield, March 18, 1865.

Brig. Gen. Louis Hébert, chief engineer of the department, will proceed immediately with his personal staff to Weldon, N. C., and superintend the construction of the important defenses there. On his arrival there he will make immediate inspection and report upon the condition and progress of the work.

By order of General Bragg:

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD, *March 18, 1865—6.55 a. m.*

Major-General HOKE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you immediately put your command en route for Bentonville.

Very respectfully,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA
Bentonville, March 18, 1865—9 p. m.

Major-General HOKE:

The commanding general directs that you have your command ready to move at daylight to-morrow morning.

Respectfully, &c.,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
March 18, 1865.

Lieut. Col. J. B. STARR:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you detach a four-gun battery of your reserve battalion, and send to Cox's Bridge, on Neuse River, to cross to north side and report there to Col. J. N. Whitford, for defense of the bridge against enemy's approach from direction of Fayetteville. Let the battery start at daylight in the morning.

Very respectfully,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Bentonville, March 18, 1865.

Col. S. D. POOL, *Goldsborough:*

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you send the whole of Whitford's command to Cox's Bridge, on the Neuse, immediately, instructing him to take position to defend the bridge to the last against the approach of Sherman's forces from direction of Fayetteville. A four-gun battery will be started there at dawn in the morning to report to him. Against cavalry or a small force of infantry it can be successfully held, but if driven away he must destroy the bridge at all hazards and bring off his command. You must rely on the cavalry alone to oppose the enemy approaching from Kinston. Lipscomb asks for 400 sabers. They will be sent from Raleigh by rail, if you telegraph the ordnance officer there that it will be safe to do so.

Very respectfully,

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Bentonville, March 18, 1865—9 p. m.

Col. S. D. POOL, *Goldsborough:*

Send Whitford's entire command immediately to Cox's Bridge, directing him to take position there to defend against enemy approaching from toward Fayetteville. He will prepare the bridge to be destroyed when it can no longer be held. A battery will be sent to him from here in morning early.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 18, 1865—7.10 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. ARNOLD ELZEY,
Augusta, Ga.:

(From Winnsborough by courier-line.)

General Johnston orders that the light batteries not brought here and not required for the defense of Augusta be collected at Macon, where you will establish your headquarters and reorganize and re-equip your batteries.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 18, 1865.*

Capt. THOMAS R. SHARP,
Assistant Quartermaster, Salisbury:

Hawkins, president of Raleigh and Gaston Railroad, will not be able to assist you. Communicate with Captain Robinson at this place.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 19, 1865—1 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield:

Train just left with ammunition called for.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
In the Field, March 19, 1865—1.30 p. m. (Received 2 p. m.)

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding:

GENERAL: General Stewart desires me to say that the enemy attacked the right and center of our line at 12.45 p. m. and were easily repulsed. The heaviest attack was made on Stovall's brigade.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. F. SEVIER,
Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General.

Abstract from tri-monthly return of Clayton's division, Lee's corps, Maj. Gen. Henry D. Clayton, C. S. Army, commanding, for March 19, 1865.

Command	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent. (a)
	Officers.	Men.			
General and staff	4	.....	.....	4	8
Stovall's brigade	35	363	341	474	2,194
Baker's brigade	48	455	438	605	2,243
Jackson's brigade	7	121	108	174	3,014
Total division	94	939	887	1,257	7,459

a Ninety-nine officers and 1,641 men, prisoners of war, all included in aggregate present and absent.

H. D. CLAYTON,
Major-General.

ON ROAD, *March 19, 1865—12.45 p. m.*
(Received 1.45 p. m.)

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: With one regiment I am trying to get to Wheeler, or on the flank of the enemy. Butler is on the road behind you, and a

part of Dibrell's command. Stewart wrote just now that the enemy attacked him. Taliaferro is just going in. I think whatever we do should be done quickly. An advance of the line would break them, I think.

Yours, very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Wilmington and Raleigh Road, March 19, 1865—11.30 a. m.

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I arrived here with Allen's and Ashby's commands. I find the enemy have pickets on this road between Mill Creek and Stone Creek. I learn that Stone Creek is of difficult crossing; that it can be crossed at but one point, and then only by single file. I fear that Mill Creek is so full that it cannot be forded. I will try to secure the bridges before the enemy destroys them.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 19, 1865—1.10 p. m.

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: On reaching Stone Creek I found a few Yankees on south side. I crossed with my advance and captured one prisoner from Twentieth Corps. He states that Twentieth Corps was moving on road from Averasborough in direction of Goldsborough, and that the Fourteenth Corps was in front on same road, fighting. When he left his corps it was corduroying the road.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

3 P. M.

General JOHNSTON:

Within just handed me by courier, who says he can't find General Hampton, as the latter has gone to General W[heeler]. I suppose it makes no difference.

H. B. MCCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Clinton and Smithfield Road, March 19, 1865—3 p. m.

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: My orders were to attack the enemy on this road when the troops on the Goldsborough and Averasborough road attacked. I have found great difficulty in crossing Stone Creek, but on hearing firing on the Goldsborough road I moved a small force across and attacked and

drove in the enemy's pickets. I have heard but little firing in your direction, and now can hear none at all. Please give me information from time to time what to do. Soon as I get my troops across I shall move on. The ford is growing worse and worse, and citizens inform me that if many troops cross it will become impassable. The force at Dismal Cross-Roads being still there this morning, I have been forced to keep a strong picket on the road leading in that direction.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Smithfield and Clinton Road, March 19, 1865—3.30 p. m.

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: A prisoner just brought in, belonging to Kilpatrick's cavalry, reports that his command moved from Dismal Cross-Roads this morning in direction of the Widow Peacock's house, on the Clinton road, which is south from Dismal Cross-Roads. When he was captured he supposed the head of the column had reached Widow Peacock's house.

Respectfully, major, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

N. B.—At Widow Peacock's house the enemy could turn off and go in direction of Bentonville or Goldsborough.

BENECIA [?], *March 19, 1865—9 p. m.*

Major-General WHEELER,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 5 p. m. is just received. I wish that you would leave sufficient force to hold the bridge on Clinton and Smithfield road and bring the rest of your command to Bentonville at as early an hour in the morning as you can. Guard the roads leading to Bentonville. We drove the enemy one mile and a half to-day, capturing four guns, and General Johnston proposes to maintain his position to-morrow. Send out your best scouts to get information. I shall be to-night near where the battery was to-day.

Respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
March 19, 1865.

Maj. H. B. MCCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: Scouts have just brought in two prisoners from Fifteenth Corps, captured on Cox's Bridge road, about one mile and a half above this point. They report that their corps is marching on the road to our right. They have also brought in two prisoners from Fourteenth Corps. They report that their corps is in front of our infantry line on this road, and the Twentieth Corps is in rear of it.

Very respectfully, &c.,

M. C. BUTLER,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
March 18, 1865—10 p. m.

Respectfully forwarded.

The bridge spoken of is the one destroyed by me to-day on Smithfield road. The encampment is at the intersection of Smithfield and Clinton with Averasborough and Goldsborough roads.

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LOGAN'S BRIGADE,
March 19, 1865.

Major PRESTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Butler's Division:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I met the head of the enemy's column at a point about two miles and a half from the point at which I left you. I drove their advance guard in upon their column, about one mile and a half from the point at which I met them, capturing two animals. I have formed my line at the fork of the road (two miles and a half from you). I could not take the command farther with safety, as the enemy have also appeared on the left road. General Howard and staff was charged by my advance, or so they announced themselves, upon being met suddenly at a bend in the road. Some of the prisoners that have been taken report the Twentieth Corps in my front, advancing. I have struck nothing but mounted men so far. I have taken steps to learn whether the Twentieth Corps is here, and will inform you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

T. M. LOGAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 19, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. BRADLEY T. JOHNSON, *Salisbury:*

Take immediate steps to have 300 negroes impressed and turned over to Capt. Thomas R. Sharp, engaged in widening gauge of railroad. Captain Sharp is in Salisbury. Communicate with him.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BENTONVILLE, *March 20, 1865.*

General R. E. LEE:

Our cavalry reporting that the Fourteenth and Twentieth Corps were moving by the Averasborough and Goldsborough road, and the Fifteenth and Seventeenth by that from Fayetteville, I concentrated our troops here yesterday morning and attacked the enemy about 3 p. m.; routed him, capturing three guns; but a mile in rear he rallied upon fresh troops. We were able to press all back slowly until 6, when receiving fresh troops, apparently, he attempted the offensive, which we resisted without difficulty until dark. This morning he is intrenched. Our loss was small. The troops behaved extremely well. Dense thickets prevented rapid operations.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
March 20, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

I can but express my hearty congratulations at your victory of the 19th. It was skillfully planned and boldly executed. The gratification it will give to the country will be equaled by the gratification which will be felt for yourself and the brave army that achieved it.

R. E. LEE.

SMITHFIELD STATION, *March 20, 1865.*

Lieutenant-Colonel ANDERSON, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I send dispatch from Major Ayer, from Augusta. Did you receive cipher dispatch from Richmond sent to you yesterday by one of General Bragg's couriers? Gist's brigade is expected to-day. I received no instructions in regard to movement of troops from this place. If you have any to give please inform me. I requested commanding officer of Lowry's brigade to arrest and convey to front all stragglers he may find on his march.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES COOPER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR BENTONVILLE, *March 20, 1865—2.30 p. m.*

Captain COOPER, *Smithfield:*

Send all troops of Army of Tennessee this way as soon as they arrive, not to march, however, after night.

ARCHER ANDERSON.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 20, 1865—a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Smithfield, N. C.:*

General Elzey has reported for orders from Augusta. I have ordered him to Macon with all light batteries not required for the defense of Augusta. Do you intend that he shall supersede General Cobb?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

NEAR BENTONVILLE,
March 20, 1865—4.30 p. m.

General BEAUREGARD, *Raleigh:*

General Elzey's being sent to Macon in command of artillery will not interfere with General Cobb's local command. Please so inform them. I think it will be better for you to bring up Lee. All artillery without horses, including that which was at Smithfield, should be sent immediately as far as Greensborough.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

SMITHFIELD, *March 20, 1865.*

General BEAUREGARD:

The Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps were yesterday moving on the road from Fayetteville to Goldsborough; the Fourteenth and Twentieth

on that from Averasborough. We attacked the latter force at 3 p. m.; routed one corps, capturing three guns; but a mile in rear the enemy rallied on fresh troops. We were able to press all back slowly until 6, when, apparently receiving fresh troops, he attempted the offensive, which we resisted without difficulty until dark. Our troops behaved handsomely. This morning enemy was intrenched. We have now the whole army in our front. The Fifteenth Corps, moving from direction of Goldsborough on our left flank and rear, made it necessary to change our front so as to look to the south. There has, so far, been only skirmishing to-day. Please give this information to the governor in my name.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 20, 1865.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C.:

Major Willis reports having shipped everything from Salisbury. Shall I await here Lee's arrival? Anything new from the front?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

MARCH 20, 1865—6 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel ANDERSON:

If we are to retire to-night would it not be well for me to withdraw the artillery on my line at an early hour and give timely notice, so that every one can be prepared?

Very respectfully,

A. P. STEWART,
Lieutenant-General.

HOSPITAL, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
March 20, 1865.

Colonel GALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Tennessee:

COLONEL: The wounded number 624. All cases able to walk have been sent off to Smithfield. Unless all the wagons are placed at my disposal the wounded cannot be removed to-day. Inform General Stewart of the fact and give me information what can be done, and what time is allowed for the removal of the wounded.

Respectfully,

JNO. T. DARBY,
Medical Director.

HEADQUARTERS STEWART'S CORPS,
March 20, 1865.

Captain GALE:

Just in front of our line and to the left of it the enemy are busily engaged in felling heavy timber. Nothing of the kind heard on our right. This cutting of timber is either fortifying or cutting a road to our left.

Respectfully,

W. W. LORING,
Major-General.

BENTONVILLE, *March 20, 1865—12.50 p. m.*
(Received 1.30.)

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Commanding:

GENERAL: The reported advance on this place proves to have consisted of a small foraging party. I shall look well to this flank and I have ordered some cavalry to relieve your men at the mill.

Respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Flower's House, March 20, 1865—11.05 a. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: I have formed a dismounted line here very near Flower's house, and can hold the enemy in check till we are flanked out of it. The line is a very short one, however. I have sent General Law back to Bentonville, with instructions to scout all roads running eastwardly from that point.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

N. B.—Enemy are engaging us very warmly.

MARCH 20, 1865—9.50 a. m.
(Received 10.15 a. m.)

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy's infantry and artillery is advancing rapidly from the direction of Cox's Bridge. He is now about two miles from Flower's house. A few regiments of infantry would check his advance, I think, very materially. Our cavalry is too weak to accomplish much.

I am, colonel, very respectfully,

E. M. LAW,
Brigadier-General.

MARCH 20, 1865—3 p. m.

Maj. H. B. McCLELLAN:

MAJOR: I have found the right of the enemy's line. It is simply an extension of the line in front of our infantry by skirmishers who are stationary. This extension does not reach very far on this side of the road on which the enemy advanced this morning. I have found another country road, above this one, which leads into the Goldsborough road, and on which there is a good crossing [over] the creek. I have sent a picket to watch it. We are replenishing our ammunition and resting part of the command. I will keep watch on the enemy's right and notify you of any movement.

Respectfully, &c.,

E. M. LAW,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS CUMMING'S BRIGADE,
Bentonville, March 20, 1865. (Received 1.30 p. m.)

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that, in compliance with orders from the commanding general, my command is at this place (Bentonville).

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. J. HENDERSON,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, March 20, 1865.

Lieut. Col. A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Serving in General Hardee's command are the Fiftieth North Carolina Regiment (Hoke's division), Tenth North Carolina Battalion, and one regiment Senior Reserves, belonging to Department of North Carolina. These troops were carried to Georgia by me in November, and have been twice ordered by the War Department to rejoin their commands whenever practicable. McDougald's and De Rosset's companies infantry and a battery of artillery, detached by me on leaving Wilmington to obstruct the navigation of the Cape Fear River, fell in with General Hardee at Fayetteville, and are now serving with his command. I respectfully request that these commands be ordered to report to me as soon as consistent with the interest of the service.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG.

NEAR BENTONVILLE, *March 20, 1865.*

General BRAGG:

There is great complaint of the treatment the wounded receive in the rear. General Johnston desires you would send a medical officer of experience in the field to Smithfield, to take charge of the whole matter. This officer will give orders for such changes as may be necessary, in General Johnston's name, and will immediately communicate by telegraph with Capt. J. M. Robinson, engineer in charge railroads, Raleigh, calling for trains to carry off the wounded as fast as possible. Any hospital arrangements at Smithfield and the depot should be of a temporary character.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR BENTONVILLE, *March 20, 1865—3 p. m.*

General BRAGG:

General Johnston directs me to say that to save time you are authorized, upon any emergency, to call directly upon Major-General McLaws, who has been instructed to obey your call.

ARCHER ANDERSON.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, March 20, 1865—6 p. m.

Memorandum of telegram in reply to Colonel Pool's telegram of 20th, 12.15 p. m., viz: Ordering Whitford's infantry and artillery to Turner's Bridge at once, and thence to join us south of Bentonville; the artillery by orders at Bentonville. Destroy all bridges on Neuse. Cavalry to continue to hold enemy in observation, and report.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 20, 1865.*

General P. M. B. YOUNG,
Augusta Ga.:

Stragglers and deserters are reported numerous between Columbia and Augusta and Branchville. Arrest and send them forward.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 20, 1865.*

Maj. R. J. ECHOLS,
Quartermaster, Charlotte:

Be prepared to ship through to this place by rail all troops arriving at Chester or any other point. Call upon presidents of railroads to render you every assistance.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[MARCH 21, 1865.—For Lee to Breckinridge, relating to operations in North Carolina, &c., see Part I, p. 1046.]

[MARCH 21, 1865.—For Johnston to Lee, reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 1055.]

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 21, 1865—3 p. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Near Bentonville, N. C.:
(Via Smithfield.)

Brigadier-General Robertson expects his cavalry brigade here to-day. Where shall it be ordered to? I hope Lee will soon be at Chester. Whom will you send to Augusta, McLaws or Wright?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 21, 1865—9 a. m.*

Maj. Gen. A. ELZEY,
Augusta, Ga.:

General Johnston orders you establish your headquarters at Macon, collecting there all light batteries not required for defense of Augusta, equipping them for the field soon as practicable. General Cobb's command remains as heretofore.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SMITHFIELD STATION, *March 21, 1865—8.45 a. m.*

Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Dispatch from Colonel Sale of 6 p. m. was received by me at 2 a. m. this morning. The operator at Goldsborough was called repeatedly, but did not answer until daylight. At 2.20 a. m. I sent copy by couriers, as you directed, to Colonel Whitford, at or near Cox's Bridge. The courier has not returned yet. Over 200 prisoners arrived here last night. In absence of instructions I shall send them by first train to Raleigh and telegraph General Beauregard.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. COOPER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHFIELD STATION, *March 21, 1865—3.25 p. m.*

[Lieutenant-Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:]

COLONEL: Dispatch was received from General Bragg's headquarters at 2 p. m. addressed to Colonel Pool, at Goldsborough, directing his movements in case of evacuation of that place, &c. Communication with Goldsborough ceased just previous to receipt of dispatch. The last dispatch to operator said Yankees were in three miles of town. It is supposed the office is closed or the line cut. I found an intelligent courier belonging to General Wheeler's escort company and sent dispatch to Goldsborough by him directing him to cross Little River and proceed down left bank in direction of Goldsborough, but to strike the Weldon railroad a couple of miles above the town; to be cautious, and destroy dispatch in case of capture.

Respectfully, &c.,

JAS. COOPER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
March 21, 1865—10.25 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: It has just been reported to me that the enemy's infantry are advancing on General Taliaferro's extreme right, threatening to turn his flank.

ALEX. P. STEWART,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MCLAWS' DIVISION,
March 21, 1865.

Colonel ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Sergeant Paysinger has just returned from a scout, and reports as follows: Went to the Goldsborough road about four miles to the left of our infantry, near a mill, and found the Second Division of the Fifteenth Army Corps passing up the road in the direction of the battle-field of

yesterday. Citizens on the road report that the enemy were moving in this same direction all night. Paysinger captured seven prisoners, who confirmed this report. Paysinger will return at once. He left his men on the road. The prisoners report that the Seventeenth Army Corps is on the right, in the direction of Goldsborough, lying in camp.

Respectfully, &c.,

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CHEATHAM'S CORPS,
March 21, 1865—5 p. m.

Col. W. D. GALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Tennessee:

COLONEL: I have just been making disposition of what force I have left. I am from three to five feet apart in single rank. I placed Tyler's brigade beyond the swamp, which does not extend quite to the edge of the field. The enemy is confronting us to the edge of the field, in what force I do not know. I kept Taliaferro's pickets on post; will retain them. There is no cavalry on my right that I can find. and I made search. The enemy can come in there with impunity.

Very respectfully,

WM. B. BATE,
Major-General.

MARCH 21, 1865—6.45 a. m.

General WHEELER,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to say that it is reported that the enemy are attempting to cross the swamp on which Colonel Smith is stationed. He desires you to send all of your available men at once to re-enforce Colonel Smith, and to extend to the left, to connect with General Law.

Very respectfully,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MARCH 21, 1865—2 a. m.

Major McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: My scouts have just returned from the right of the enemy's lines. They report no retrograde movement of the enemy; on the contrary, the indications are that he will fight to-day. The scouts penetrated to the Goldsborough road and conversed with men from the Fifteenth Corps, who stated that their commands were on the line in front. I will keep a few men along Mill Creek on the other side in order to notify me of any movement of enemy from the neighborhood of Cox's Bridge across toward Smithfield or Bentonville. I think such a movement would only be attempted with cavalry, if at all.

I am, major, very respectfully,

E. M. LAW,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Bentonville, March 21, 1865.

Governor Z. B. VANCE,
Raleigh, N. C.:

As soon as you can spare the detachment Sixth North Carolina Cavalry please order them to rejoin regiment near Goldsborough.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS MCLAWS' DIVISION,
March 21, 1865.

General B. BRAGG:

Colonel Prather, commanding the cavalry in my front, reports the enemy passing to my left. I am extending a line of skirmishers to the left to meet the movement. At the time Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon was at my headquarters the movement had not been reported, Colonel Prather having just gone in.

Very respectfully,

L. MCLAWS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, March 21, 1865—6.30 a. m.

Col. S. D. POOL,
Goldsborough:

When forced to evacuate retire up Weldon road. Forward to Colonel Lipscomb following directions: He will assume command of all cavalry; maintain his position in front Goldsborough till forced back by numbers; will have north side Neuse picketed to Cox's Bridge. When obliged to leave Goldsborough cross Little River, destroying bridges in his rear and hold that line, establishing a telegraph office there.

JOHN B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 21, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. B. T. JOHNSON,
Salisbury, N. C.:

Much suffering among the sick and wounded soldiers for want of hospital accommodations is reported at your post. Have necessary arrangements made immediately to relieve their wants and sufferings.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 21, 1865.*

Capt. THOMAS R. SHARP,
Assistant Quartermaster, Salisbury:

All horses must march through, except those of officers belonging to the infantry, who are with their proper commands.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 21, 1865.*

Capt. THOMAS R. SHARP,
Assistant Quartermaster, Salisbury:

Captain Robinson reports that neither the North Carolina Central, the Wilmington and Weldon, nor the Weldon and Petersburg Railroad, will be able to assist you. Call upon General Bradley T. Johnson for labor.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 21, 1865.*

Maj. J. B. EUSTIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Augusta, Ga.:

General Beauregard directs that Major Bryan return to Milledgeville and see to the transportation of troops and supplies; that Colonel Roman return to Augusta and see to the discharge of the same duties. You will make headquarters at Chester and perform similar duties until further orders.

GEORGE WM. BRENT,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,
Tallahassee, March 21, 1865.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Since my letter of the 13th instant, addressed to Lieutenant-General Hardee, forwarding reports of Capt. J. J. Dickison, Second Florida Cavalry, and recommending his promotion, he has rendered another good service in pursuing a raiding party to within a mile of Saint Augustine and recapturing twenty-four negroes and other stolen property. In addition to the command I could give him if appointed a colonel, the governor of the State, who has heretofore strongly recommended Captain Dickison's promotion, tells me that he can have command of all the State forces in that section of the State. A deputation of citizens of Southern Florida called on me a few days since on other business, but in the course of conversation assured me that Captain Dickison has the entire confidence of the people and that his promotion and assignment to command in that section of the State, of course under the district commander, would give great satisfaction and confidence.

Very respectfully, &c.,

SAM. JONES,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DISTRICT OF FLORIDA,
Tallahassee, March 21, 1865.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: We are so greatly in need of funds to pay the troops in this district and to meet the ordinary current expenses of the service, and mail communication with you and with Richmond so very precarious and uncertain, that I send a quartermaster, Major Hamilton, directly to your headquarters for funds. Besides many other outstand-

ing debts, the troops have not been paid since last August. Some of them never have been paid. Major Hamilton will explain the necessity for the funds, and I hope it will be in the power of your chief quartermaster and paymaster to supply him with them, and if you cannot that you will send him immediately to Richmond, or wherever the seat of Government may be, to obtain the funds from the Treasury, through the Quartermaster-General's Department. Indeed, I would prefer that Major Hamilton should go on to Richmond as the regular estimates for funds are there and he has a number of letters to deliver and some other business to transact. Besides the obvious injustice and inconvenience of keeping officers and men out of their pay so long, other serious injury results to the service, for in a country so cut off from other portions of the Confederacy, where desertion is so easy and there are so many temptations to desert, men make the fact of non-payment an excuse, or pretext, for deserting.

Very respectfully,

SAM. JONES,
Major-General, Commanding.

[MARCH 22, 1865.—For Davis to Lee, referring to operations at Bentonville, &c., see Vol. XLIX, Part II.]

NEAR BENTONVILLE, *March 22, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Raleigh:

Send Robertson's brigade to Smithfield to join the army.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 22, 1865.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield:

What disposition shall be made of stores now here not needed for the immediate use of your army?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 22, 1865—9.30 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield:

Have you any orders for rolling stock of the Wilmington and Weldon and Raleigh and Gaston Railroads?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

NEAR BENTONVILLE, *March 22, 1865.*

Maj. W. E. MOORE,
Smithfield:

General Johnston directs that you load all your wagons with subsistence immediately and put them on this side the river on the road Stewart camped on, about where the road to Raleigh turns off. If Captain Crenshaw makes any further difficulty about giving you the wagons after the accompanying order, General Johnston directs that

Colonel Jackson enforce it, and put him in irons if necessary. Load everything else on the cars and remove it to the rear at once, on account of the advances from Goldsborough.

ARCHER ANDERSON.

EN ROUTE, *March 22, 1865—3 p. m.*

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: I have McLaws on the road which I learn from Captain Feilden you intended the troops to take. Taliaferro on this wretched road, which I have been working on and pulling wagons through all the morning. If you have no objections I will continue with the wagons on this road and take Taliaferro's division with me. If you approve, please order McLaws forward from his present position at such time as you may judge fit. The road I am on is the road you traveled from Smithfield to Bentonville.

Very respectfully,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

The wagons on this road must go forward, as they can't be turned back.

W. J. H.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 22, 1865—3 p. m.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE, *Smithfield, N. C.:*

I know nothing positive, but report says railroad stock and sick were saved.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

MARCH 22, 1865.

Major-General McLAWS, or
Lieutenant-General HARDEE:

SIRS: The command under General Schofield, consisting of a part of the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Corps, are crossing the Neuse River at Cox's Bridge, about ten miles above Goldsborough (coming to the east side). Two divisions of negroes are already over. We caught fifteen prisoners this morning and turned them over to Capt. D. A. Cogdell, of the Sixty-seventh North Carolina, and I will send this by him. I will still remain here and do my duty.

T. M. PAYSINGER,
Sergeant of Scouts.

HANNAH'S CREEK, *March 22, 1865—7.25 a. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: The new bridge over Mill Creek was not destroyed by the infantry, and it would not burn. General Wheeler threw off the flooring and did all he could to destroy it, but he says it can easily be repaired, and I suppose infantry can cross. The infantry did not cross till sunrise, and the enemy pressed Wheeler up to the bridge. I am preparing the bridge for burning.

Very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HANNAH'S CREEK, *March 22, 1865—5.30 a. m.*

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: The infantry is now across the bridge. After you destroy it keep a few vedettes up and down the creek till all is clear between the creek. There is a ford here. You can order Colonel Dibrell either to this point or he can fall back toward Smithfield. Your note as to the wagon train just received. I should be glad for you to carry out the plan.

Very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON.

ROAD, *March 22, 1865—5.15 p. m.*

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: I wish that you would move your command across the river early in the morning, leaving one brigade to cover the line of march of the infantry. Direct the officer commanding that brigade to report to General Johnston, and when he follows us let him leave small scouting party. I will take Law across the river at once. If Hart's battery is on the road do bring it with you. Allen and Dibrell are on the Clinton road.

Very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Widow Mitchener's, Two Miles from Smithfield,
March 22, 1865—6.45 p. m.

General WHEELER:

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to say that from the information he has received it will be necessary for you to move your command across the river as early as you can to-morrow morning. General Law will move down the river to-night on the river road, and General Hampton desires you to go on the road south of and near to the railroad, which road leads from Smithfield to Goldsborough. He desires you to reach and take position on Moccasin River if you can. General Law will endeavor to take position on the same stream on the river road. He also desires you to have some parties out on the north side of the railroad to observe if the enemy moves in that direction.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

General Hampton thinks it will be only necessary to keep one regiment on the west side of the Neuse River in rear of our infantry. Let that regiment keep out scouting parties. Cross at Turner's Bridge and take the nearest road to the road leading down the railroad. Bring Hart's battery to this side of the river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

KENNEDY'S CROSS-ROADS, *March 22, 1865.*

Col. J. B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Since receiving your dispatch I sent a scout toward Cox's Bridge, which met the enemy about one mile and a half on this side and fired into them. It was his advance guard. My scouts also report the enemy's cavalry flanking me on my left. If this be true I cannot hold the bridges in my front. When I am forced to fall back I will fall back on the two main roads leading from Goldsborough to Smithfield, keeping flankers to my left and on the river road.

T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Colonel, Commanding.

WILSON, *March 22, 1865.*

Col. J. B. SALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I evacuated Goldsborough at 4 p. m. yesterday; reached here at 11 o'clock to-day. Large Yankee force in Goldsborough. I left after enemy entered town. Everything was destroyed that could not be brought off. I will write you full particulars when I reach Tarborough to-morrow.

S. D. POOL,
Colonel, Commanding.

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., March 22, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. T. H. HOLMES,
Commanding North Carolina Reserves, Raleigh, N. C.:

Your action in regard to the Reserves is approved.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 22, 1865—7.10 p. m.*

Capt. C. F. VANDERFORD,
Ordnance Officer, Smithfield:

Dispatch received 7 p. m. Captain Robinson has been ordered to send you the rolling-stock called for. He reports that a train came from Smithfield to day only partially loaded. Please have the correction made. Have trains properly loaded. Prisoners might be placed upon the tops of the cars.

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR SMITHFIELD, N. C., *March 23, 1865—1.30 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE:

Sherman's whole army being intrenched in our front on morning of the 20th we did not attack, but held our position to cover removal of wounded and occupy enemy. There was heavy skirmishing 20th and 21st, and several partial attacks by him handsomely repulsed. Troops of Tennessee army have fully disproved slanders that have been pub-

lished against them. Evening and night of 21st enemy moved toward Goldsborough, where Schofield joined him, and yesterday we came here. Sherman's course cannot be hindered by the small force I have. I can do no more than annoy him. I respectfully suggest that it is no longer a question whether you leave present position; you have only to decide where to meet Sherman. I will be near him.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS,
March 23, 1865.

General JOS. E. JOHNSTON:

Telegram of 1.30 p. m. received. I am delighted at conduct of Tennessee army. I hope you will be able often to repeat your blow and finally shiver enemy. Still we must meet the question. Where, in your opinion, can we best meet Sherman?

R. E. LEE.

NEAR SMITHFIELD, N. C., *March 23, 1865—2.30 p. m.*

General R. E. LEE:

I earnestly recommend and ask that Major-General Lovell be ordered to report to me. I regard him equal to our best major-generals. Please reply.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

NEAR SMITHFIELD, N. C., *March 23, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Raleigh, N. C.:

Sherman's whole army being intrenched in our front on morning of 20th we did not attack, but held our position to cover removal of wounded and occupy enemy. There was heavy skirmishing 20th and 21st, and several partial attacks by him handsomely repulsed. Troops of Tennessee army have fully disproved slanders that have been published against them. Evening and night of 21st enemy moved toward Goldsborough and yesterday we came here.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 23, 1865—9.30 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C.:

Have you selected point in our rear for depot of provisions and forage? How much of quantity here shall be retained?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 23, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C.:

What amount of provisions, forage, and ammunition shall be kept here? Answer in cipher. Governor Vance says he can send you twenty wagons out of thirty which are hauling Government tithes here, if you so prefer it.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 23, 1865—11.30 a. m.*

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Smithfield, N. C.:

Gaston railroad bridge is floored for passage of artillery and wagons. An engineer is required to direct construction of approaches thereto. Please order one soon as practicable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

NEAR SMITHFIELD, N. C., *March 23, 1865.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Raleigh:

Stores not needed for immediate use should not be accumulated above the quantity that can be removed in two days. Rolling-stock you mention can still be used for General Lee's benefit, can it not?

J. E. JOHNSTON.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 23, 1865—10.30 a. m.*

Capt. J. M. GOODMAN,
Assistant Quartermaster, Chester, S. C.:

Have any of General Lee's troops arrived yet at Chester? If so, send them on rapidly as possible.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 23, 1865—8.20 a. m.*

Brig. Gen. W. W. MACKALL,
Macon:

Brigadier-General Fry will arrange for the absentees, Army of Tennessee, arriving at Augusta.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RALEIGH, N. C., *March 23, 1865—8.20 a. m.*

Maj. S. R. CHISMAN,
Greensborough:

Let animals march to Hillsborough. Stop artillery at that place.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR SMITHFIELD, N. C., *March 23, 1865—2.30 p. m.*

Capt. J. M. ROBINSON,
Raleigh:

Letter 18th to Colonel Otey received. Whenever you are informed that enemy is moving west from Goldsborough remove all trains mentioned west of Raleigh. You will have at least two days' time after notice.

ARCHER ANDERSON.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 68. } *Richmond, March 23, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

XX. Maj. T. B. Venable, assistant adjutant-general, is assigned to duty with Lieut. Gen. T. H. Holmes, commanding Reserves of North Carolina, and will report accordingly.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS,
No. 8. } *March 23, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

IV. Cumming's brigade will rejoin Stevenson's division.

By order of General Johnston:

KINLOCH FALCONER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS,
March 23, 1865.

The army will move to-morrow morning, by the Lewisburg road, to camp two or three miles the other side of the railroad depot. Corps commanders will send staff officers ahead to communicate with Maj. John Johnson, engineers, at Stevens' house by 10 a. m., and learn the ground intended for their troops. At 9 o'clock the Army of Tennessee will lead and be followed by the troops of the Department of North Carolina. Headquarters will be at Richardson's house.

By order of General Johnston:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
March 23, 1865.

The Army of Tennessee will move to-morrow morning in the direction of Lewisburg promptly at 9 o'clock, right in front, Cheatham's corps leading, Lee's corps next, and Stewart's corps in rear. Shortly after leaving an inspector from each corps will report to Lieut. Col. T. F. Sevier, inspector-general, at the head of the column, for instructions, &c.

By command of Lieutenant-General Stewart:

W. D. GALE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR MOCCASIN CREEK,
March 23, 1865—9.35 a. m.

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose a dispatch* just received. Law is on the river road and Wheeler on the middle road with flanking

* Not found as an inclosure.

parties north of the railroad. I shall push on until I get as near the enemy as possible, giving you all information as to their movements and as to the character of the country.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

SOUTH MOCCASIN, *March 23, 1865—12.45 p. m.*

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: I forward a dispatch from Ashby, one of my best scouts. He is very accurate in his information. I shall press and follow the enemy up.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

[Inclosure.]

MARCH 23, 1865—12 m.

Col. G. J. WRIGHT,
Commanding Young's Brigade:

COLONEL: I have just taken three more prisoners of the Fourteenth Corps, which, they say, is certainly moving toward Goldsborough. I presume the force on your front to be simply a strong picket protecting their flank. I am satisfied my report this morning was correct. Your advance is now very near the flank of the enemy's marching column. I have not seen General Logan's scouts since 8 a. m., but hear they are on my left, looking east. I will go down and report when I learn something which may be of importance.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. ASHBY.

HEADQUARTERS,
Moccasin Creek, March 23, 1865—8.30 p. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding:

GENERAL: I inclose a dispatch from General Wheeler and one from Ashby.* This afternoon I pressed up nearly to the road from Cox's Bridge to Goldsborough, and found everything going to the latter place. We have captured about seventy-five prisoners in all, and they concur in stating that their army is going to Goldsborough. I shall press down to-morrow. Can it be possible that Sheridan is bringing his cavalry here? He was said to have had 6,000 at Charlottesville. If he does come General Lee should send some more to us. He has about 5,000 on the right of his army. We should also have authority to press horses, as many of Butler's men are still dismounted. We need 500 saddles and bridles also.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Lieutenant-General.

*For Wheeler's dispatch, see 5.10 p. m., p. 1459; Ashby's not found.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 23, 1865—11.40 a. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: A prisoner just sent to the rear states that he belongs to the Fourteenth Corps; that yesterday morning they marched over our works, and finding our troops gone, moved in the direction of Goldsborough, and that the Twentieth Corps went with the Fourteenth. He states that parts of the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Corps are camped on the Bentonville and Goldsborough road on the southwest side of Neuse River and about three miles from that river. He says that he saw yesterday men belonging to Terry's troops, and understood that Schofield was near Goldsborough. He says the understanding was they would stop and get up supplies before moving forward in force. A courier just reports that some of the enemy have crossed Moccasin Creek, moving toward Smithfield. I will soon ascertain all about it. Colonel Ashby was sent to Moccasin Creek early this morning.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

ON RIVER ROAD,
One Mile and a half from Cox's Bridge, March 23, 1865—2 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER:

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your note of 10.20 a. m., and to inform you of our position, which is nearly two miles in advance of Moccasin Swamp. The enemy is moving down toward Goldsborough. The Fourteenth Corps commenced crossing at Cox's Bridge on pontoons this morning, and is now skirmishing on our front. General Hampton desires you to occupy the road you are on, and one on the other side of the railroad, which leads from Raleigh to Goldsborough, and which road is now occupied by Colonel Lipscomb, Second South Carolina Cavalry, who will be ordered to report here when relieved by your troops. He desires you to press down these roads, get as near the enemy as you can, and endeavor by scouts, &c., to gain all the information of his movements possible. Endeavor to connect, by scouts or otherwise, with Law, on the river road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 23, 1865—2.40 p. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: I have moved to within one mile and a half of Moccasin Creek, and have sent out scouts [to watch] the movements of the enemy, some of which have gone to the north and northeast of Goldsborough to ascertain if the enemy are moving in those directions. Colonel Ashby is on Moccasin Creek with his command. I shall remain at this point till I get further information.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER,
Major-General.

ATKINSON'S HOUSE, *March 23, 1865—5 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. J. WHEELER, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: General Hampton directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of 2.40 p. m., and to inform you that his headquarters will be at this house, which is on the river road, about half a mile above Moccasin Swamp. He desires you to-morrow morning to get on the left flank and front of the enemy, who is moving toward Goldsborough, and to forward all information of the enemy's movements direct to General Johnston, at or near Smithfield, as well as to General Hampton, who will be upon this road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
March 23, 1865—5.10 p. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: Captain Shannon has just sent in some twenty-five prisoners. Some belonging to the Seventeenth Corps state that they were marching from Cox's Bridge this morning toward Goldsborough, and that the understanding was they would stay in Goldsborough one month. One of the prisoners belongs to Terry's Twenty-fourth Corps. He states that General Terry is commanding his own and the Twenty-fifth Corps. He also says General Sheridan was at General Sherman's headquarters this morning, and would have his cavalry command in three days.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. WHEELER.

N. B.—Prisoners say they understood that Sheridan would advance with the cavalry at once.

MARCH 23, 1865—9 a. m.

Colonel SMITH, *Commanding Brigade:*

COLONEL: Scouts from my detachment just returned report the enemy's cavalry crossing at Cox's Bridge (nine miles below here) last night and this a. m. Those that crossed last night moved toward Goldsborough. When scout left there was a column marching out from river. Had not reached this road. Not advised whether they turned up or down the river.

Very respectfully.

WM. BLACK,
Lieutenant, Commanding Detachment.

NEAR MOCCASIN RUN,
March 23, 1865—9.15 a. m.

[Major McCLELLAN:]

MAJOR: The head of my column is at Moccasin Run. I have scouting parties on the right to the Neuse, examining the roads and crossings of the river, and on the left for the purpose of communicating with Colonel Lipscomb, who I learn is on the middle or stage road, four miles to the left of this. My scouts met a small force of enemy, whom they think belonged to Schofield, near Mr. William Atkinson's, several miles this side of Cox's Bridge. Part of Sherman's force encamped last

night beyond the river (west) near Cox's Bridge. I will move on, reporting from time to time. There are two roads to the left of this, both leading from Goldsborough to Raleigh, one near railroad, the other north of it.

Respectfully,

E. M. LAW,
Brigadier-General.

I have just heard from the scouts ahead. They have captured four prisoners from the Fourteenth Corps, who say that they had orders to go to Goldsborough, and the foragers have gone in that direction. They report the Twenty-third, Twenty-fourth, and Twenty-fifth (black) Corps on this side of the Neuse, but none moving this way. The other corps seem to be crossing and going down. Can Sherman be making for Petersburg and Weldon?

E. M. LAW,
Brigadier-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., March 23, 1865.

General M. L. BONHAM, *Columbia, S. C.:*

GENERAL: You have been appointed and confirmed brigadier-general. Brigade composed of Colcock's, Black's, Lipscomb's regiments. Report to General Johnston.

SAMUEL W. MELTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Return of effective strength, &c., of the infantry and artillery of army March 23, 1865.

	Effective total.	Total present.	Aggregate present.	Remarks.
Army of Tennessee, Lieut. Gen. A. P. Stewart commanding:				
Lee's corps	2,340	3,211	3,583	Effective total artillery, 106.
Cheatham's corps	2,005	2,602	2,927	
Stewart's corps	723	1,131	1,256	
Total army	5,068	6,944	7,766	
Hardee's corps, Lieut. Gen. W. J. Hardee commanding:				
McLaws' division	3,002	3,526	4,007	
Taliaferro's division	1,695	1,802	1,909	
Total corps	4,697	5,328	5,916	
Troops Department of North Carolina, General Braxton Bragg commanding:				Effective total artillery, 657.
Hoke's division	3,598	4,339	4,831	
Recapitulation:				
Army of Tennessee	5,068	6,944	7,766	
Hardee's corps	4,697	5,328	5,916	
Troops Department of North Carolina	3,598	4,339	4,831	
Grand total	13,363	16,611	18,513	

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Field return of Conner's brigade March 23, 1865.

Commands.	Present.			Aggregate present and absent.
	Effective total.	Total.	Aggregate.	
Field staff			6	12
2d South Carolina Regiment	131	184	207	499
3d South Carolina Regiment	191	247	265	544
7th South Carolina Regiment	200	222	241	555
8th South Carolina Regiment	52	54	61	360
15th South Carolina Regiment	162	174	193	580
20th South Carolina Regiment	216	243	270	1,096
3d South Carolina Battalion	113	129	136	296
Total	1,065	1,253	1,379	3,942

Respectfully submitted.

JNO. D. KENNEDY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

ROCK CREEK, *March 23, 1865.*

Field return of Harrison's brigade, commanded by Col. George P. Harrison, jr.

Command.	Commander.	Total present for duty.	Aggregate present for duty.	Total present.	Aggregate present.
5th Georgia Regiment	Col. C. P. Daniel	159	177	256	282
32d Georgia Regiment	Lieut. Col. E. H. Bacon	411	435	554	583
47th Georgia Regiment	Capt. E. W. Hazzard	120	138	160	177
Grand total		690	750	970	1,042

GEO. P. HARRISON, JR.,
Colonel, Commanding.

MARCH 23, 1865.

Field report of General Blanchard's brigade March 23, 1865.

	Effective.	Total.	Aggregate.
General and staff	12	12	16
First battalion	103	106	121
Second battalion	54	91	110
Sixth battalion	126	152	167
Seventh battalion	48	52	66
Grand total	343	413	480

ALBERT G. BLANCHARD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Seventh Brigade.

CAMP NEAR SMITHFIELD, *March 23, 1865.*

Abstract from field return of Stevenson's division, Lee's corps, Army of Tennessee, Maj. Gen. Carter L. Stevenson, C. S. Army, commanding, for March 23, 1865.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.			
Major-general and staff[a]	8	.....	.....	8	11
Pettus' brigade	54	473	453	690	3,111
Palmer's brigade	78	502	468	762	3,637
Cumming's brigade	38	222	213	425	1,860
Conner's brigade	.....	6	6	6	6
Total division	178	1,203	1,140	1,891	8,625

[a] Capt. A. S. Gaines, engineer officer, detached by order from army headquarters, is now on duty in Mississippi. No report received since January 28, 1865.

C. L. STEVENSON,
Major-General, Commanding.

Field return of troops in the Department of North Carolina for March 23, 1865.(a)

Brigades.	Efficient for duty.					Non-efficient.						Total present.		
						Sick.		In arrest.		Extra duty.				
	Officers.	Non-commissioned staff.	Musicians.	Arms-bearing men.	Ambulance corps.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Aggregate.
Kirkland's	74	9	29	809	29	8	56	2	.....	.....	35	84	967	1,051
Colquitt's	94	15	18	766	57	4	55	3	2	5	53	106	966	1,072
Hagood's	61	12	3	621	32	4	108	3	.....	1	59	69	835	904
Clingman's	44	13	6	455	36	3	37	.....	1	2	12	49	560	609
Nethercutt's	84	5	1	947	29	....	10	.....	.....	.....	19	84	1,011	1,195
Total	357	54	57	3,598	183	19	266	8	3	8	178	392	4,339	4,831
Light artillery	34	96	6	657	.....	....	21	.....	.....	2	20	36	800	836

[a] Junior Reserves [and] the Sixty-seventh and Sixty-eighth North Carolina Regiments are marching to join General Hoke, and no report is yet received from them. Neither has a report been received from the Second South Carolina Cavalry.

Respectfully submitted.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Near Smithfield, March 23, 1865.

ALTERNATE DESIGNATIONS

OF

ORGANIZATIONS MENTIONED IN THIS VOLUME.*

Abell's (Henry F.) **Artillery.** See *Milton Artillery, post, Battery B.*
Adams' Battalion. (Official designation not of record.) See *Major Adams.*
Aiken's (Hugh K.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Allen's Company. (Official designation not of record.) See *Captain Allen.*
Allen's (Henry) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 17th Regiment.*
Allen's (Richard J.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
Ames' (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 6th Regiment.*
Ames' (William) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Anderson's (Edward C., jr.) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Anderson's (John H.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment, Junior Reserves.*
Anderson's (Paul F.) **Cavalry.** See *Baxter Smith's Cavalry, post.*
Anderson's (Ruel Wooten) **Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
Ashbury's (John A.) **Cavalry.** See *Ohio Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Ashby's (Henry M.) **Cavalry.** See *Tennessee Troops, Confederate.*
Atwell's (Seager S.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Atwill's (James W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
Austin's (John P.) **Cavalry.** See *Kentucky Troops, Confederate, 9th Regiment.*
Avent's (George E.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Bachman's (Amos W.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 203d Regiment.*
Bachman's (William K.) **Artillery.** See *German Artillery, post.*
Bacon's (E. H., jr.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 32d Regiment.*
Badham's (William, jr.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Battery B.*
Bailey's (Lyman) **Artillery.** See *Ohio Troops, 15th Battery.*
Baird's (George W.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 32d Regiment.*
Barclay's (Hugh W.) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Barney's (Albert M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 142d Regiment.*
Barnum's (Joseph H.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 16th Regiment.*
Barnwell's (A. Smith) **Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
Bartholomew's (Walter G.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 27th Regiment.*
Barton's (D. R.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 14th Regiment, Militia.*
Beach's (Benjamin) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Beaufort Artillery. See *South Carolina Troops.*
Bennett's (Augustus G.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 21st Regiment.*
Berry's (James W.) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, Union, 8th Regiment.*
Bird's (Edward) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Bishop's (Judson W.) **Infantry.** See *Minnesota Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Bizzell's (D. W.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Black's (John L.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Blackwell's (William H.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, 3d Regiment.*

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* References, unless otherwise indicated, are to index following.

Blake's (Francis D.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery A.*

Blakey's (David T.) **Cavalry.** See *Alabama Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment.*

Blanding's (Ormsby) **Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment.*

Blau's (Gustav) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 54th Regiment.*

Blount's (John M.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Battery K.*

Boag's (Theodore G.) **Artillery.** See *Gist Guard, Artillery, post.*

Bond's (Emery S.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 112th Regiment.*

Bowden's (Doil R.) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 18th Regiment.*

Boyles' (William) **Cavalry.** See *Alabama Troops, Confederate, 56th Regiment.*

Bradley's (William E.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 13th Regiment.*

Brady's (Thomas J) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 140th Regiment.*

Brazie's (William R.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 5th Regiment.*

Breckinridge's (William C. P.) **Cavalry.** See *Kentucky Troops, Confederate, 9th Regiment.*

Bridgeford's (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 102d Regiment.*

Broadfoot's (Charles W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Junior Reserves.*

Bromley's (W. L.) **Cavalry.** See *Tennessee Troops, Confederate, 9th Battalion.*

Brooks' (John W.) **Artillery.** See *Terrell Artillery, post.*

Brown's (Angus P.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment.*

Brown's (Barton R.) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 6th Regiment.*

Brown's (John E.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 42d Regiment.*

Brown's (Philip P., jr.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 157th Regiment.*

Bruton's (T. J.) **Artillery.** (Official designation not of record.) See *T. J. Bruton.*

Burkhardt's (Christian) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 29th Regiment.*

Burr's (J. G.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 7th Regiment, Home Guards.*

Butler's (William) **Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment.*

Butterfield's (Charles H.) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 91st Regiment.*

Butts' (Frank A.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 47th Regiment.*

Caldwell's (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Kentucky Troops, Confederate, 9th Regiment.*

Callahan's (Charles M.) **Artillery.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, Battery H.*

Caminade's (H.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 1st Regiment, Local Defense (Rains').*

Camp's (William S.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 24th Battery.*

Campbell's (Charles G.) **Siege Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*

Capers' (F. W.) **Cadets.** (Official designation not of record.) See *F. W. Capers.*

Carew's (John E.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 18th Regiment, Militia.*

Carpenter's (John N.) **Cavalry.** See *Alabama Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment.*

Carroll's (John J.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 20th Regiment.*

Charles' (William E.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Regiment, Battery D.*

Chatfield's (Harvey S.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 102d Regiment.*

Chatham Artillery. See *Georgia Troops.*

Chesnut's (John) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Regiment.*

Chesterfield Artillery. See *South Carolina Troops.*

Chestnut Light Artillery. See *Palmetto Artillery, post, Battery F.*

Chisolm's (R. J.) **Cavalry.** See *Florida Troops, Confederate.*

Citadel Cadets, Infantry. See *South Carolina Troops.*

Claassen's (Peter J.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 99th and 132d Regiments.*

Clark's (Jeremiah S.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 2d Regiment, Battery G.*

Clayton's (William Z.) **Artillery.** See *Minnesota Troops, 1st Battery.*

Clemons' (J. J.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 1st Regiment, Local Defense (Rains').*

Clinch's (Duncan L.) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Coast Guard, Cavalry. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate.*
Cobb Guards, Heavy Artillery. See *Georgia Troops.*
Cogdell's (Daniel) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Batteries B, G, and H.*
Colcock's (Charles J.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Commissary Battalion, Cavalry. See *Florida Troops, Confederate.*
Conahan's (John S.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 50th Regiment.*
Connor's (Bryan) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 47th Regiment.*
Cook's (F. W. C.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 23d Battalion, State Guard.*
Cook's (Gustave) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Cooley's (Alfred) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 156th Regiment.*
Cooper's (John S.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 107th Regiment.*
Cross' Company. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Cross.*
Cumming's (John B.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 5th Regiment, Reserves.*
Cummings' (Emory) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 23d Battalion.*
Daniel's (Charles P.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Daniell's (Charles) **Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
Darden's (Alfred M.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Battery C.*
Darling's (Moses O.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 5th Regiment, Battery D.*
Davis' (R. F.) **Cavalry.** See *Alabama Troops, Confederate, 24th Battalion.*
Day's (Samuel C.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery F.*
Dearing's Artillery. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Dearing.*
De Gress' (Francis) **Artillery.** See *Illinois Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery H.*
Denny's (John P.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 100th Regiment.*
De Pass' (W. L.) **Artillery.** See *Palmetto Artillery, post, Battery G.*
De Rosset's (Armand L.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 2d Battalion, Local Defense.*
Dibrell's (George G.) **Cavalry.** See *Tennessee Troops, Confederate.*
Dickson's (Henry) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 13th Battalion, Battery E.*
Dobbs' (S. P.) **Cavalry.** See *Alabama Troops, Confederate, 9th Regiment.*
Dodge's (Rowland L.) **Artillery.*** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery B.*
Donnellau's (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 27th Regiment.*
Downer's (Edward) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 117th Regiment.*
Duncan's (William) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Dunham's (Joseph L.) **Artillery.** See *Milton Artillery, post, Battery A.*
Earle's (A. C.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 19th Battalion.*
Earle's (William E.) **Artillery.** See *Palmetto Artillery, post, Battery A.*
Echols Artillery. See *Georgia Troops.*
Elgin Artillery. See *Illinois Troops.*
Ellis' (Andrew J.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Battery A.*
Ellis' (Thomas M.) **Artillery.** See *J. H. Wiggins' Artillery, post.*
Erwin's (Joseph) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Evans' (Richard W.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Battery F.*
Evans' (William A.) **Artillery.** See *Chesterfield Artillery, ante.*
Everett's (Benjamin F.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 2d Regiment, Battery A.*
Fair's Cavalry. See *South Carolina Troops, 19th Battalion.*
Fairleigh's (Thomas B.) **Infantry.** See *Kentucky Troops, Union, 26th Regiment.*

* Temporarily commanding.

Fox's (Charles B.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 55th Regiment, Colored.*
Frankle's (Jones) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Frederick's (A. J.) **Militia.** (Official designation not of record.) See *A. J. Frederick.*
French's (William F.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment, Junior Reserves.*
Furman Artillery. See *Palmetto Artillery, post, Battery A.*
Gage's (Joseph S.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 29th Regiment.*
Gaillard's (Christopher) **Artillery.** See *Santee Artillery, post.*
Gamble's (Robert H.) **Artillery.** See *Leon Artillery, post.*
Gantt's (F. Hay) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 11th Regiment.*
German Artillery. See *South Carolina Troops.*
German Artillery Battalion. See *South Carolina Troops.*
Girardey's (Camille E.) **Artillery.** See *Louisiana Guard, Artillery, post.*
Gist Guard, Artillery. See *South Carolina Troops.*
Goff's (Nathan, jr.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 37th Regiment.*
Goodwyn's (A. D.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 2d, 3d, and 4th Regiments, Militia.*
Graham's (George W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
Graham's (Harvey) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 22d Regiment.*
Graham's (Robert F.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Gray's (Patrick) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Grice's (Lemuel A.) **Infantry.** See *J. W. Ward's Reserves, post.*
Griffin's (J.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, Militia.*
Griffith's (Jacob W.) **Cavalry.** See *Kentucky Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment.*
Guerard's (John M.) **Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
Hamilton's (Oliver P.) **Cavalry.** See *Tennessee Troops, Confederate.*
Hammond's (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 65th Regiment.*
Hamner's (William H.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery A.*
Hanleiter's (Cornelius R.) **Artillery.** See *Jo. Thompson Artillery, post.*
Hannon's (John H.) **Cavalry.** See *Alabama Troops, Confederate, 53d Regiment.*
Harrington's (Samuel) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 25th Regiment.*
Harris' (Sampson W.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Harrison's (Robert) **Cavalry.** See *Florida Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment.*
Hart's (James F.) **Artillery.** See *Washington Artillery, post.*
Hart's (John R.) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Hartwell's (Alfred S.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 55th Regiment, Colored.*
Harvey's (Alonzo D.) **Artillery.** See *Indiana Troops, 15th Battery.*
Haughton's (Nathaniel) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 25th Regiment.*
Hazzard's (Elliott W.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 47th Regiment.*
Hennessy's (John A.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 52d Regiment.*
Heyward's (D. B.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Heyward's (George C.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Hibbets' (Jefferson J.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 32d Regiment.*
Hickey's (James T.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 181st Regiment.*
Hilliard's (Van Rensselaer K.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 48th Regiment.*
Hinds' (Jerome J.) **Cavalry.** See *Alabama Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
Hoge's (George W.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 183d Regiment.*
Holland's (William A.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment.*
Holmes' Company. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Holmes.*
Hood's (Arthur) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 29th Battalion.*
Hooks' (Boaz F.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Senior Reserves.*
Hooks' (Robert W.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, 11th Regiment.*

Houstoun's (Patrick) **Artillery.** See *Kilcrease Artillery, post.*
Howard's (John H.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Hufty's (Samuel) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Huggins' (Almaria L.) **Artillery.** See *Tennessee Troops, Confederate.*
Hughes' (Samuel T.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Huguenin's (Thomas A.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 32d Regiment.*
Hurlbut's (George R.) **Cavalry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Huwald's (Gustave A.) **Artillery.** See *Tennessee Troops, Confederate.*
Ilsley's (Edwin) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 12th Regiment.*
Inge's (William M.) **Cavalry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Inglis Light Artillery. See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Regiment (Heavy), Battery D.*
Jaques' (Samuel R.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 1st Battalion (Columbus).*
Jeff. Davis Legion Cavalry. See *Mississippi Troops.*
Jewell's (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 38th Regiment.*
Johnson's (Nathan J.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 115th Regiment.*
Johnson's (Richard) **Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops.*
Jones' (Enoch) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery C.*
Jones' (John S.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 174th Regiment.*
Jordan's (William J.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 104th Regiment.*
Jo. Thompson Artillery. See *Georgia Troops.*
Kanapaux's (Charles E.) **Artillery.** See *Palmetto Artillery, post, Battery D.*
Kanapaux's (J. T.) **Artillery.** See *Lafayette Artillery, post.*
Kay's (James D.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Battalion, Reserves.*
Keith's (Charles A.) **Cavalry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Kelly's (James I.) **Artillery.** See *Chesterfield Artillery, ante.*
Kerwin's (Michael) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Kilcrease Artillery. See *Florida Troops, Confederate.*
King's (James R.) **Cavalry.** See *Roswell Battalion, Cavalry, post.*
King's (John L.) **Cavalry.** See *Ohio Troops, 4th Company.*
Kirk's (M. J.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 19th Battalion.*
Kirkland's (George H.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Kirkpatrick's (M. L.) **Cavalry.** See *Alabama Troops, Confederate, 51st Regiment.*
Klein's (Daniel) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Knap's (Joseph M.) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, Battery E.*
Knerr's (Charles) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 76th Regiment.*
Kovacs' (Stephen) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 54th Regiment.*
Kuhn's (John H.) **Cavalry.** See *Henry M. Ashby's Cavalry, ante.*
Lafayette Artillery. See *South Carolina Troops.*
Laing's (John K.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 14th Regiment.*
Lee's (Edgar) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 101st Regiment.*
Lee's (Edgar J.) **Artillery.** See *Montgomery True Blues, Artillery, post.*
Lee's (Philip) **Infantry.** See *Kentucky Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment.*
Lee's (Richard H.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 16th Battery.*
Lee's (William A.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Le Gardeur's (G., jr.) **Artillery.** See *Orleans Guard, Artillery, post, Battery A.*
Lehmann's (Theodore F.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 103d Regiment.*
Leon Artillery. See *Florida Troops, Confederate.*
Lewis' (Charles) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 176th Regiment.*
Lewis' (James) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 144th Regiment.*
Lewis' (James H.) **Cavalry.** See *James T. Wheeler's Cavalry, post.*
Lewis' (Thomas W.) **Cavalry.** See *Kentucky Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment (Woodward's).*
Lillard's (W. W.) **Cavalry.** See *George W. McKenzie's Cavalry, post.*
Lipscomb's (Thomas J.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Looney's (George C.) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 2d Regiment.*

Louisiana Guard, Artillery. See *Louisiana Troops, Confederate.*
Lowry's (A. M.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Lucas' (J. Jonathan) **Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops, 15th Battalion.*
Ludwick's (Ephraim A.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 112th Regiment.*
Lusk's (L. W.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment.*
McCarthey's (Charles) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 175th Regiment.*
McChesney's (Joseph M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
McCord's (Henry J.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 111th Regiment.*
McDaniel's (John R.) **Artillery.** See *J. H. Wiggins' Artillery, post.*
McDougald's (W. J.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate.*
Macfie's (James P.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Regiment.*
McGregor's (C. E.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 5th Regiment, Reserves.*
McKenzie's (George W.) **Cavalry.** See *Tennessee Troops, Confederate.*
McKoy's (Almond A.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 8th Regiment, Reserves.*
McLane's (James J.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
McLemore's (William S.) **Cavalry.** See *Tennessee Troops, Confederate.*
Manigault's Infantry. See *South Carolina Troops, 19th Regiment, Militia.*
Marion Artillery. See *South Carolina Troops.*
Markey's (F. L.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 1st Regiment, Local Defense* (*Rains'*).
Marple's (William W.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 34th Regiment.*
Martin's (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 97th Regiment.*
Mathewes' (J. Raven) **Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops.*
Maxwell's (J. A.) **Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
Maynard's (Edward) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, Union, 6th Regiment.*
Melchers' (F.) **Artillery.** See *German Artillery Battalion, ante, Battery B.*
Mercer Artillery. See *Georgia Troops.*
Mesereau's (Thomas J.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery B.*
Meulen's (Emelius de) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 5th Regiment, Battery K.*
Milholland's (Thomas J.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 107th Regiment.*
Millard's (David T.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Battalion, Junior Reserves.*
Milton Artillery. See *Florida Troops, Confederate.*
Montgomery's (John G. M.) **Cavalry.** See *George W. McKenzie's Cavalry, ante.*
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